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BEHAVIOR

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364 3000



By JAMES L. MELCHERS,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

If you want to protect your spouse and/or children, you should consider your estate plan. At a minimum, estate planning should include three basic documents: a

Will, a "springing" durable Power of Attorney, complete with healthcare provisions, and a Living Declaration.

If you choose not to write a will, Louisiana's Laws of Intestacy prevail. If you become unable to handle your own affairs and medical care and you do not have a Power of Attorney, the Laws of Interdiction prevail. In both instances, the costs associated with not having the proper documents before the need arises greatly exceeds the costs of preparation and execu-

tion of a Will and a Power of Attorney.

A will allows you to plan for the orderly distribution of your estate, on your terms, to the people of your choice, within the bounds of the new forced heirship laws. Recall, I addressed some of the issues of forced heirship in the September issue of the *Kenner Star*.

What exactly is a "springing" durable Power of Attorney with healthcare provisions? It is termed *springing* because it springs into effect at the time of your disability or incapacity and not before then. Many persons are afraid to give up control. In this type of Power of Attorney, no control is given up until you are deemed incapacitated by two physicians, one of which must be your personal physician. It is called *durable* because it survives your disability. Also, if you once again become able to handle your own affairs and medical decisions, the Power of Attorney allows you to take control at that time.

Healthcare provisions mean that the Power of Attorney has special language in it that allows your designated person(s) to make healthcare decisions for you.

There are many different kinds of Powers of Attorney. For your best protection in the estate planning area, choose the one discussed above.

"Living Declarations" are commonly termed "Living Wills." Regardless of name, the document allows you to make a choice concerning the use of life-sustaining machines BEFORE you are terminally ill or brain dead.

When is the best time to have the three aforementioned documents prepared? Simply put, NOW! There are no assurances in this life. You only have to read the newspaper to know the truth of that statement. ★

James L. Melchers is an attorney with Melchers Law Corporation, located at 909 West Esplanade Avenue in Kenner.

## Estate Planning, Is It For You?

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CITY OF KENNER  
OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL

September 28, 1996

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CITIZENS OF KENNER

Dear Fellow Citizens:

Recently it has been publicized that the New Orleans International Airport is once again looking into the possibility of adding additional runways. The purpose of this communication is to inform you that the City Council is monitoring these developments on a daily basis. Be assured that any airport projects that may affect your quality of life will be publicly debated and evaluated.

Your current City Council has gone on record opposing any runway expansion that would add more air traffic over our neighborhoods. This position has not changed and we will keep you informed of all important issues.

Sincerely,

*Terry McCarthy*  
Terry McCarthy  
President of the Council

*Betty Bonura*  
Betty Bonura  
Councilman at Large

*Marc E. Johnson*  
Marc E. Johnson  
Councilman  
District 1

*John T. Lavarine, III*  
John T. Lavarine, III  
Councilman  
District 2

*Jeannie M. Black*  
Jeannie M. Black  
Councilwoman  
District 3

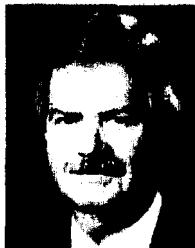
*Blaine Gahagan*  
Blaine Gahagan  
Councilman  
District 4

*Phil Capitano*  
Phil Capitano  
Councilman  
District 5

/ms

## Banking

### Metro Bank Names New President



The Metro Bank Board of Directors recently named Larry Tyson president. Tyson has over 25 years experience in residential and

commercial banking. He previously served as vice president of Omni Bank in charge of mortgage lending.

Metro Bank is located at 3417 Williams Boulevard in Kenner and 3235 North Causeway Boulevard in Metairie. ★

### OPEN HOUSE

(continued from page 1)

the Rivertown museums and participate in Kenner's "Coat Drop for the Needy."

Kenner's "Veterans Day Celebration," a highlight of the month, will be held at Kenner Veterans Park on November 8, with festivities scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. This event, open to the general public, will feature the unveiling of the "Air Force in the Gulf War" sculpture as part of the "Century of Sentries" Memorial depicting the various military conflicts of the 20th century. The "Air Force in the Gulf War" sculpture, sponsored by Sheriff Harry Lee, is dedicated to the 926th Tactical Fighter Group, based at the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in New Orleans. The "Air Force in the Gulf War" sculpture depicts a uniformed A-10 fighter pilot in the Desert Storm conflict. Over 500 men and women of the 926th fought in this historic call-up of reserve forces, playing a pivotal role in the destruction of Iraqi forces. Entertainment for the ceremony will be provided by a military band, with refreshments being served to all in attendance. Kenner's Veterans Park is sponsored all month long by *The Times-Picayune*.

The Pontchartrain Center is also the

place to be during November, with several exciting events on the agenda, including the "Steinhauer Arts & Crafts Show" on November 2-3, the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Volleyball Tournament on November 14-16, the city of Kenner Cheerleader Tryouts on November 19, the Bagwell Antique Show on November 23-24 and the Shrine Circus on November 26-December 1.

There are always plenty of activities planned by the Kenner Recreation Department during November, including Football Championship Games on November 16 at Muss Bertolino Playground, Cheerleading Competitions on November 19 at the Pontchartrain Center, and the Gingerbread House Making Demonstration on November 23 at the Fassbender Center.

Kenner Regional Medical Center is also participating in the spirit of "Kenner Open House," offering its "Wellness Connection," a series of free health information and education each day at The Esplanade Mall in Kenner. Stop by the shopping center and get your blood pressure checked for free.

Kenner always has the best Christmas celebrations and this year is certainly no exception. On November 30, festivities get under way at the Cox Communications Chil-

continued on page 7

## Legislature

### Constitutional Amendments And Statewide Proposition Of Gambling On November 5 Ballot



Ansardi

Martiny

Lentini

**By STATE REPRESENTATIVES  
GLENN ANSARDI & DANNY MARTINY  
AND STATE SENATOR ART LENTINI**

On November 5, 1996, voters in parishes across the state will be asked to vote separately on whether or not to permit each type of gambling (except for horse racing, the lottery, charitable gambling and Native-American operated casinos) now legal in their respective parish. In Jefferson Parish, that would mean video poker and riverboat casinos. You may vote YES or NO for each individual form of gambling.

If a majority of the voters in Jefferson Parish vote YES for video poker, the industry will stay. On the other hand, if they vote NO, the industry will have to close after two more licensing periods (i.e. approximately 1999).

If the parish voters vote YES to riverboats, Boomtown and Treasure Chest will be allowed to stay, but no additional boat would be allowed to dock on the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline of Jefferson Parish. This is because the bill that approved this local option vote contains an absolute ban for any additional boats along the Jefferson Parish/Lake Pontchartrain shoreline. This prohibition was inserted in the bill at the urging of the Jefferson Legislative Delegation.

tion. With regard to our community, a YES vote for riverboat gaming would only mean that the Treasure Chest could stay.

In the event that the majority of voters in Jefferson Parish vote NO for riverboats, Boomtown and Treasure Chest would have until the end of their license term

(approximately 1999) to operate before having to close down.

In addition to this statewide proposition for local option votes on gambling, the ballot also contains three constitutional amendments.

Amendment No. 1, if approved, would prohibit participation in public retirement systems by legislators, school board members and other part-time public officials initially elected or appointed after January 1, 1997. A vote against this amendment would continue to allow part-time officials to join public retirement systems.

The passage of Amendment No. 2 would allow parishes and municipalities to donate abandoned or blighted housing to non-profit groups for renovation.

In the event that Amendment No. 3 is approved by a majority of the voters, the current practice of applying different sales tax exemptions at the state and local levels would be ratified.

As always, if you have any further questions or comments regarding any of these ballot proposals, please feel free to call us at the following numbers:

Representative Glenn Ansardi - 466-1331  
Representative Danny Martiny - 834-7676  
State Senator Art Lentini - 838-8777

★

### OPEN HOUSE

(continued from page 6)

dren's Castle, Rivertown's newest attraction, at 12:00 p.m. Continuous shows, complete with costumed characters, musicians and mimes, will get everyone ready for the arrival of Santa Claus. At 4:30 p.m., Santa Claus will make his official arrival in Kenner at the Children's Castle before parading down Williams Boulevard via Rivertown's antique fire truck to officially open the Coca-Cola Christmas Village at Kenner Veterans Park. Ribbon cutting ceremonies will begin at 5:15 p.m.

To help celebrate the opening of the Christmas Village, a special Christmas concert will be performed by the Greater New Orleans Area Civic Symphony. The Christmas Village, sponsored in part by WLTS-FM and Kool 95-FM, features spectacular light displays, roving carolers, decorated pavilions, food and entertainment.

When visiting the Christmas Village, bring your used toys to Kenner's "Toy Drop for the Needy." The Christmas Village

remains open every weekend from November 30 through December 20. Hours of operation are from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Also, catch the arrival of Santa Claus at The Esplanade on November 16, 1996, at 10:00 a.m.

The popularity of Rivertown's museums has truly skyrocketed over the years, especially during the month of November. During "Open House," the city is pleased to invite everyone to visit the five museums free of charge every weekend, compliments of WWL-TV Channel 4, WVUE-TV Fox 8, and Cox Communications. Special weekend hours during November are 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.

One of Rivertown's most popular museums, the Freeport McMoran Daily Living Science Center, will feature free activities every weekend, including "Tornado Races" every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and daily demonstrations at The Times-Picayune Color Exhibit and WWL-TV Weather Station Exhibit. In addition, the 43-

continued on page 12

## The Prudential



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## Government



By **MICHAEL ZITO**  
**KENNER FIRE CHIEF**

Unbeknown to most people, October is **NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION MONTH**. As a result, this is the time of year that the fire service has designated to focus time and energy in the area of fire safety. All across the nation, fire departments will be visiting schools, businesses and civic groups and having groups tour the fire stations so that the message of fire safety can be taught.

For the past 15 years, the Kenner Fire Department has been teaching fire prevention and safety to the members of the community. The fire department often hears stories about how these safety tips have saved various lives. Since saving lives is our number one concern, these stories make what we do all worth while. October also tells us that we are approaching the cold months of the year. During this time, the Kenner Fire Department experiences an increase in the number of calls for help. In fact, the cold months are the busiest time of year for all fire departments. The reason for this trend is quite simple. As the outdoor temperature drops, homes and businesses begin using heaters, fireplaces and floor heaters.

During the holiday season, decorations are added to electrical circuits, all of which increases the likelihood of a fire.

The following safety tips are presented to help reduce the chances of a fire in your home or business:

- Have a working smoke detector in your home. If you already possess one, make certain that it works by checking its operation on a monthly basis. Change the batteries in the unit every six months.

- If there are any gas appliances in your home (e.g., heater, clothes dryer, stove or oven), install a carbon monoxide detector. Check its operation each month as you do for a smoke detector.

- Before using your heating system, make certain that it is checked by a certified air conditioning and heating company. Many deaths and fires occur from faulty heating equipment.

- NEVER leave an appliance running when you leave your home. If something goes wrong with your clothes dryer, dishwasher or washing machine, your home could burn to the ground before anyone would be aware of the problem.

- NEVER leave lit candles unattended. Pets and young children could knock the candles over or they could fall over on their own.

- NEVER leave cleaning products, poisons, gasoline or medications in an area where they can be reached by children. Not only does this present a serious safety hazard to your children, it could also be a breeding ground for

spontaneous combustion if a child moved a flammable liquid into close contact with a flame.

- Have an exit plan for you and your family to get out of your home in the event of a fire. More importantly, practice your escape routine from time to time.

These are just a few of the many safety tips that all citizens should know. If you would like an officer from the Kenner Fire Department to speak to your civic group, business or school, or if you would like to tour a fire station, call 468-4000 to set up an appointment. ★

## Newly Formed Advisory Board Helps Jefferson Bring Home The Tourist \$\$\$

By **TIM COULON**  
**JEFFERSON PARISH PRESIDENT**

Tourism is a \$2.9 billion business for the New Orleans Metropolitan Area and Jefferson Parish is now poised to attract an even bigger share of this booming business.

In an effort to enhance the economic development of the state's second largest parish, Jefferson Parish Council Chairman Aaron Broussard and I have initiated an ambitious goal to market our parish.

Obviously, we know New Orleans will always be the premiere *port-of-call* for Louisiana visitors. However, we can certainly do more to attract those visitors who are on a return visit to New Orleans or the Louisiana family on a budget that is looking for a vacation destination.

Jefferson Parish can also be an even bigger player in the convention business. With the Pontchartrain Center already surpassing expectations and the Alario Center on the West Bank slated for completion by the Fall of '97, Jefferson stands to get its fair share of conventions. Additionally, the Alario Center will be able to focus on luring sporting events to our parish, especially with over 28,000 square feet of court space to offer.

As Parish President, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for Jefferson in the tourism arena. I am proud to see my Administration, the Parish Council and so many dedicated citizens working together to

enhance our stature as a tourist destination.

The newly formed Jefferson Parish Tourism Advisory Board will certainly help generate tourism in the parish. The agency encompasses our unique cites, including Grand Isle, Gretna and Kenner, as well as our hotel/motel association, restaurant association, historical societies, festivals, the Jefferson Performing Arts Society and the New Orleans Zephyrs, just to name a few.

While this board is a large one, it will be very effective because it will do most of its work in smaller committees chaired by the top professionals in a variety of fields.

Furthermore, although this Tourism Advisory Board is only in its infancy, the enthusiasm and initiative shown by the members make the possibility for success all but guaranteed. As the committees get down to the business at hand, there is no limit to what Jefferson can accomplish in the tourism industry.

Here's a list of a few festivals coming up in Jefferson Parish in the month of October that you and your family may want to attend:

October 5-6  
Round-the-Clock Regatta (Grand Isle)  
October 11-13  
Gumbo Festival (Bridge City)  
October 19-20  
Jeff Fest (Metairie)  
October 20  
Bayou Octoberfest ★

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The Pontchartrain Center is adding 11,680 sq. ft. to its existing 50,000 sq. ft. of column-free meeting space. The expansion should be completed by Spring of 1997. It's the perfect site for conventions, trade shows, sporting events, corporate meetings and Mardi Gras festivities. Located minutes from downtown New Orleans, Pontchartrain Center offers all of the benefits of a New Orleans Style meeting at a much lower cost.

The Kenner/East Jefferson area offers another 65,000 square feet of meeting space and approximately 2,700 hotel rooms along with tourist attractions like the Mardi Gras Museum in Kenner's historic district, Rivertown U.S.A. and the Treasure Chest Casino adjacent to the Pontchartrain Center.

The Kenner Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Pontchartrain Center are both here to assist you with all of your convention planning needs — your one-stop-shopping connection for *The Affordable New Orleans*®

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(504) 465-9985 • FAX 468-6667



## Real Estate

# All Home Warranties Are Not The Same

By BETTY HOLDER

Does a home warranty protect a buyer in the event that something goes wrong after they have purchased a property? Believe it or not, the answer is *sometimes*.

This seemingly vague answer is due to the fact that home warranties are oftentimes misunderstood, and not every warranty provides the same protection. In addition, all warranty companies are not equal, either.

Of course, warranties were designed to protect buyers from problems that emerged after they moved into a dwelling. For example, if a major appliance breaks or the roof leaks, the ideal warranty kicks in and pays for the repairs.

On the surface, this sounds simple and straightforward. However, most of the time it is not what it seems to be — simple and straightforward. For openers, warranties differ. Aside from the obvious differences — the amount of deductible they have — they may vary insofar as what is and is not covered. For instance, with some warranties, if the hot water heater works on the day of the closing, but suddenly does not work six

months later, then it may be covered. Then again, with other policies, if the water heater was not in good working condition when the home was purchased, and it breaks a week or two later, there is no coverage.

Complex? Confusing? It certainly can be. Even though the language in the warranty spells out what is covered, it isn't always the easiest document to understand. Thus, step one in evaluating a warranty is to take it to an attorney to decipher. It is worth the hour or so in legal fees to be able to understand the complete terminology of the warranty.

Warranties can be critically important when it comes to new construction, too. Obviously, the reputation of the builder is an important consideration. However, problems with new homes can be enormously expensive, especially if not covered by a warranty.

When it comes to new homes, there are two types of defects — patent and latent. Patent defects are those problems which can be seen. Cracked plaster or a fence that is off-kilter are patent defects. Latent problems develop later, sometimes not showing up for five or six months. Ground shifting is a good example of a latent defect. Latent problems are usually more expensive than patent problems. Thus, the warranty for a new home can be one of the most important documents executed during the buying

process.

Whether you are purchasing a new home or a resale, remember that warranties definitely have a place when it comes to protection and peace of mind in the real

estate transaction. ★

*Betty Holder is the manager of The Prudential Louisiana Properties, Williams Boulevard location.*

## Latter & Blum Opens New Kenner Office



*Latter & Blum's Kenner office Grand Opening attendees are Deborah Nuccio, Lee Gaudino, Ana Facia, Theresa Ward, Pamfile Rando, Vera Glanachini-Pittman, Karen Hoover, Latter & Blum President Arthur Sterbcow, Branch Manager Darrel Hoover, Maave Treadway, Margaret Brown, Sharon Richardson, and Karen Brown.*

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**CASINO**



**By SHARON SOLOMON**  
**DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, KCVB**

"Overseas Brats" is a group of men and women who, because their parents were in the armed forces, went to high school overseas. Some of the members of this elite organization were the children of CIA agents that were stationed in other countries throughout the world. Every year, these "brats" organize high school reunions, selecting a different part of the United States in which to hold their gathering. The organizers, in turn, hold "Overseas Brats Gatherings" in which hotels, CVBs, etc. meet and plan for future reunions.

While in Dallas, Texas for the Meeting Planner Sales Blitz, the Kenner Convention & Visitors Bureau (KCVB) attended the last "Overseas Brats Gathering." As a result of our attendance at the meeting, the city of Kenner was chosen as host site for two "Overseas Brats" reunions. The first reunion is set for July 1997, in which 125 former students from England's Upper Heyford High School will come to Kenner to reminisce and celebrate. The KCVB is presently putting a package together for

hotels, food, sightseeing and other activities necessary for fun and a good time.

The second event will be for the former students of Karlsruhe High School (Germany). This reunion is going to be held in two hotels, one in downtown New Orleans and one in Kenner.

As always, the city of Kenner is proud to host any type of meeting, convention, trade show or, in this case, high school reunion. With lower prices on hotels and food, as well as a host of cultural and sightseeing attractions, it is small wonder that so many groups opt to come to Kenner for

business and/or pleasure. ★

*Sharon Solomon is the Director of Marketing for the Kenner Convention & Visitors Bureau, located at 2100 3rd Street in Rivertown.*

## Tourism

# Overseas "Brats" Coming To Kenner

## Community



# Kenner Groups Unite For Worthy Cause

*Karen Boudreaux was the recipient of a \$1,000 donation when the Kenner Rotary Club joined forces with the Kenner Lions Club to fund the purchase of her insulin pump. Pictured at a recent Rotary Club meeting are Kenner Lion Mike Scardino, Kenner Rotary President John Parr, Mayor Louis Congemi and Karen's husband, Marty Boudreaux.*

# Friends Of Rivertown Introduces New Membership Program

The Friends of Rivertown have announced the creation of a new membership program. The membership program offers expanded benefits, including savings throughout the year for the nine Rivertown museums and attractions.

Friends of Rivertown members will receive a variety of benefits, including a discounted admission price of only \$1 per person to each museum for one full year, a Friends of Rivertown Decal, subscription to the *Rivertown Quarterly* newsletter, invitation to Rivertown special events and openings and a membership identification card.

Four categories of membership are offered, including:

- 1) Friends membership — priced at \$25 a year, this membership offers discount admissions for up to two persons.
- 2) Family Plus membership — priced at \$50 a year, this membership offers discount admissions for 3-8 persons.
- 3) Grandparents membership — priced at \$60 a year, this membership offers discount admissions for 9-15 persons.
- 4) Business membership — priced at \$200 a year, this membership offers business-related benefits, including listings, signage and promotions.

Inaugurated with the new membership program will be a "Buy A Star" pro-

gram. For a contribution of \$100 to Friends of Rivertown, donors can purchase a star with their name or the name of a friend or family member. The brightly colored stars will be painted on the *Wall of Stars* in the courtyard of the Science Center and can be viewed anytime.

The new membership program and the "Buy A Star" program have been developed by the Friends of Rivertown, a not-for-profit organization, whose purpose is to give financial support to the museums and attractions of Rivertown.

"As a member of Friends of Rivertown, individuals, families and businesses will be able to visit our nine entertaining and educational museums and attractions all year long for a discounted admission price," stated Clem Roux, Rivertown Museum Director. "There is something for everyone at the museums, including science, history, astronomy, wildlife, trains, space travel, culture and sports. Along with other membership benefits, visitors will also be treated to a variety of exceptional facilities offering the best in family entertainment."

The new membership program and "Buy A Star" program are being kicked off in conjunction with Kenner's annual November Open House. For additional information about obtaining a membership, call (504) 468-7231. ★

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## Police

# Appreciating The Value of Treasure Chest Casino



By NICK A. CONGEMI  
KENNER POLICE CHIEF

Last month, the Treasure Chest Casino celebrated its second birthday as the city of Kenner's number one entertainment attraction. Not only has the riverboat provided this community with added entertainment, it has also been a benevolent corporate neighbor, in a philanthropic manner. Treasure Chest has furnished Kenner citizens with well-compensated employment. Furthermore, it has sponsored many worthwhile community activities, such as the Italian-American Charity Golf Tournament and the Kenner Cares Classic. That is why Kenner is the envy of other communities throughout the state of Louisiana.

Most important, however, are the revenues generated from the Treasure Chest's operation that have allowed Kenner city government to provide better services to its residents. In particular, Kenner citizens now enjoy a safer community as approximately \$2.8 million of casino revenue is annually allocated to the Kenner Police Department. These gaming revenues have prevented the burden of higher taxes being levied upon our residents in order to fund the necessities of law enforcement.

When the proposal of riverboat gaming in Kenner first appeared, many citizens expressed great reservations. Many were concerned about the casino's impact on crime, traffic and property values. However, since the Treasure Chest opened on September 5, 1994, Kenner's crime rate has declined by 22 percent. Likewise, there have been no traffic problems in the vicinity of the riverboat. City occupational licenses have increased by 10 percent and, overall, city sales taxes have increased by 25 percent.

Thanks to Treasure Chest, the Kenner Police Department has freed existing funds to hire more police officers as well as purchase new equipment and technology, thus making both the city and the parish safer for everyone. Police officers are able to respond quicker in their new police units and are better armed and protected with .40 caliber weapons and bulletproof vests. New, contemporary computer technology has enhanced the efficiency of the Department's report and record keeping abilities. And, the new Mobile Command Center, along with the Rescue and S.W.A.T. Vehicles, keep the Department prepared in the event of any natural or man-made disasters. The Treasure Chest's revenues have also allowed modernization of the Kenner Police Complex and the construction of the Training Center.

Important as well is the decent starting salary the Kenner Police Department is able to offer (\$20,000 per year) in recruit-

ing the best recruits in the metropolitan New Orleans area. These are just some of the benefits realized by the Kenner Police Department as a result of Treasure Chest Casino in just two years of operation!

Treasure Chest revenues account for \$8.9 million (16.7 percent) of the Kenner city budget. This is nearly twice as much money as is realized by ad valorem property taxes (\$4.8 million, or 8.1 percent of the city budget). Of that \$8.9 million, \$2.8

million is allocated to the Kenner Police Department, which accounts for 20 percent of the Kenner Police Department's budget. These figures are amazing when one recognizes that these revenues are generated by a clean, safe industry which has also revitalized the Laketown area. It has made Kenner less dependent on the parish, state and federal government.

On Tuesday, November 5, 1996, there will be a proposition on the ballot which

will give the citizens of Jefferson Parish, including those living in Kenner, an opportunity to determine whether or not riverboat casinos such as Treasure Chest should remain in operation. I encourage all Kenner residents to vote FOR this proposition so that we may continue to build a safer city for you and your family. Treasure Chest's presence in Kenner means lower taxes and enhanced city services for many years to come. ★

## Banking

# First Bank & Trust Recently Named "5th Best Performing Bank" In The USA

The American Banking Association recently released its annual Bank Performance Report, and First Bank & Trust was named "Number Five" in the country for banks with assets until \$100 million. The award was based on a critical set of measurements, the most important of which was the bank's five-year "return on average assets," or ROA. The measurement is a strategic barometer of the state of the industry, as well as the success of the bank and its direction.

For over five years, the First Bank & Trust has quietly, but consistently, sounded its message to the New Orleans business community. "Building the Best Little Bank in Town" has almost been a mantra, one supported with service and products unusual for such a small bank in such a large banking community.

"Old-fashioned personal service with exciting new technology have created a dynamic marriage for commercial customers in New Orleans and Jefferson Parish," stated Randy Lovitt, President of First Bank & Trust. "This award is significant to us because it confirms our strategic mission. The financial community sees the important bottom-line results of our customer focus and performance."

While a small bank in terms of total assets, First Bank's range of vital products and services is tightly focused at serving the small-to-medium sized business. These services add high-performance credibility to a full range of competitive checking and loan products. The dynamic "value-added" services include:

### 1) Digital Imaging Documentation —

As one of only three banks in the entire state with this service, First Bank & Trust recently installed a high-tech system providing new check management conveniences for the customer. Instead of receiving mounds of canceled checks every month, the customer now receives high-resolution copies of checks, chronologically organized and outlined on full sheets of paper, ready for storage in their three-ring binder. This technology is the latest in customer bank management and at the cutting-

edge of bank service.

2) ATM, an Automated Teller Machine subsidiary — Through ATM, First Bank & Trust provides automatic teller machine services. With over 75 ATM machines throughout the city and nation, First Bank's presence supports its traveling customers, as well as local customers, with easy access and convenience.

3) Small Business Services — First Bank & Trust has always focused on the small-to-medium size business, with special commercial and loan checking accounts. Most recently, the bank has added specialized services for emerging business by providing Small Business Administration loans. Vice President Barrett Blaum is a trained specialist in SBA loans, providing valuable insight and service to small businesses seeking SBA and other specialized loans. There is an art to funding emerging

businesses, and First Bank & Trust has made a special commitment to this arena.

4) Merchant Credit Card Services — Small retailers have learned to look to First Bank & Trust for not only their banking needs, but for obtaining credit card services and reconciliation as well. For the important local hospitality industry, this service has been a welcomed added benefit to banking with First Bank & Trust.

President Randy Lovitt summarizes the bank's mission with, "We have focused on understanding the needs of small and medium businesses, as well as emerging business. This ABA award is proof of our productivity and ability to serve our customers in a unique way. As we approach the 21st century, we will continue to stretch and find new ways to serve our customers and community." ★

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KEITH RETNAUD





By KEN TRAHAN

When the folks at the Nokia Sugar Bowl forked up the necessary astronomical funds to become part of the "Bowl Alliance" a couple of seasons ago, it spoke well of the Classic game and our town as well. Theoretically, it placed New Orleans in a position to host a national championship contest every three (3) seasons, rotating with the Fiesta and Orange Bowls. Last season, the Fiesta Bowl hosted a title showdown between #1 Nebraska and #2 Florida. This season, a dream matchup could turn out more like a nightmare for New Orleans.

The Alliance consists of conference champions from the S.E.C., Big 12, Big East, A.C.C., and independent Notre Dame. Already this year, Nebraska, Notre Dame, Tennessee and Colorado have been defeated. Unbeaten Florida and Florida State will play each other in the regular season, guaranteeing one of them a defeat. Virginia must still face Florida State, Miami must still play Florida State, and well, you begin

## A Flawed Alliance

to get the picture.

Meanwhile, the Rose Bowl sits in a nearly perfect position. Having not committed to the alliance when it was originally formed, the granddaddy of all bowl games still pits the Big 10 champion against the Pac 10 champion. At this time, the likes of Ohio State, Penn State, Michigan or Northwestern facing Arizona State could well be the national championship matchup that the Sugar Bowl folks thought they had paid to get.

A newly negotiated "Super Alliance" will take effect in two years. It will include both the Pac 10 and Big 10 conferences, truly producing a national championship contest. In fact, all bowls will have to re-bid for the right to become part of the process once again. There is no guarantee for any of the current alliance bowls, including the Sugar Bowl.

Somehow, none of this seems fair to us. Part of the monies utilized as an element of the big to become part of the original alliance came from increased ticket pricing for the Sugar Bowl Classic. To become part of the elite, fans were willing to pony up big bucks. Now, the whole "auction" begins anew. In the meantime, we are left with the prospect of a less-than-title-quality affair on January 2, 1997.

To be certain, we will have a good football game with excellent teams playing

## Sports

here. It just might not be the desired championship game that everyone hoped to get. The best bet for the Sugar Bowl appears to be the Florida-Florida State winner against Miami or Virginia. Realistically, what you'd like to see is Florida winning out, going unbeaten like last year and remaining #1 in both polls. Then, pull for Butch Davis and Miami to win out in the Big East, and then defeat Florida State in their annual showdown. As a result, you would have #1 Florida facing, at worst, #3 Miami in a battle of unbeaten.

Failing that scenario, hope for unbeaten and #1-ranked Florida in a rematch against Tennessee and Peyton Manning (a good draw and story). How about Florida against once-beaten Nebraska in another rematch? Or, what about Florida against once-beaten Notre Dame? All would be highly entertaining games with national championship implications.

The key to the entire equation is Florida. If the Gators win out, they will virtually be certain of being ranked #1 heading into the Sugar Bowl. Regardless of who the opponent is, you would have a big game with the winner possibly capturing the

national championship. Another long-shot possibility would be either LSU or Alabama going unbeaten. The problem here is that, in either case, they would not be ranked #1 ahead of an unbeaten Big 10 team or an unbeaten Arizona State.

Once again, this quagmire lends itself to the debate about staging a national playoff, culminating with the title game at one of the Alliance Bowl games designated to hold the championship in that year. You could either fashion an 8-team playoff leading to the "big game" or, for those who are concerned about extending the season too long, a 4-team playoff, which would add only one more game to the current season.

The argument against such a plan would be that the Super Alliance takes care of the process by pitting #1 against #2. The problem here is that the rankings are based on polls which are highly subject to favoritism and human error. Including the top 4 or 8 teams would help to alleviate any injustices. Until then, keep watching the games and the polls. Remember, as I do, you cannot worry about what you cannot control! Just relax, enjoy college football and trust in the Lord for justice to be served!!! ★

## OPEN HOUSE

(continued from page 7)

sear Planetarium will feature continuous shows, including "Moon Witch" on November 1-8, "Bear Tales" on November 9-15, "Daughters of the Stars" on November 16-22, and "Christmas Star" on November 23-30. Admission to the planetarium shows is \$1.00 per person for each show.

The Cytex Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Museum and Aquarium will also be the place to visit for fun activities during November's "Open House." Besides being able to observe the numerous preserved specimens of Louisiana birds, reptiles and wildlife on display, visitors will enjoy a special Kenner history presentation by Mayor Louis Congemi on November 16 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The "Native American Cultural Display of Louisiana Tribes" will be presented at Cannes Brulce, the Native American Center of the Gulf South, adjacent to the Wildlife & Fisheries Museum, throughout the month.

Just down the street on Williams Boulevard at the Treasure Chest Casino Mardi Gras Museum, families can enjoy free demonstrations on "Float Building" and "Costume Making" every weekend.

For the consummate Saints' fan, the Coca Cola Saints Hall of Fame Museum celebrates "All Saints Week," beginning with the Saints Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans Hotel at noon on November 1. Later that night, come celebrate "All Saints Night," a gala at 6:00 p.m. at the Saints Hall of Fame Museum. Activities continue with a Saints Alumni Open House, featuring autograph signing on

November 2, a Saints Appreciation Party at Impastato's Restaurant on November 4 and the Hall of Fame Golf Tournament at Chateau Golf and Country Club on November 18.

As an added treat, the Louisiana Toy Train Museum displays a history of the railroad, from the trains of the early 1800's to the modern trains of today.

Moving over to the Lake Pontchartrain side of town, Treasure Chest Casino has an array of special events, including a "Slots Giving Bonanza" every Monday and Wednesday, a Thanksgiving Banquet on November 28, and Chris Owens performing two shows in the Caribbean Showroom on November 30.

Kenner businesses are also an integral part of the "Open House." During the entire month, participating businesses offer special shopping values and sales under the "Open House" banner. Likewise, many stores display posters, distribute flyers and take advantage of special cooperative advertising packages created especially for "Kenner Open House" by The Times-Picayune, WWL-TV, WVUE-TV, WLTS Lite 105 FM, Kool 95 FM and Cox Communications. Each year during "Open House" month, participating businesses have traditionally realized an increase in sales due to the extensive advertising and promotion of this very special month.

Kenner continues to go all out in promoting its very successful "Open House." Besides the increase in business advertising, public service announcements, newspaper advertisements, billboards, posters, signage and flyers ensure that everyone gets the message — that Kenner is the city to visit during November and all year long! ★

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Kenner, LA

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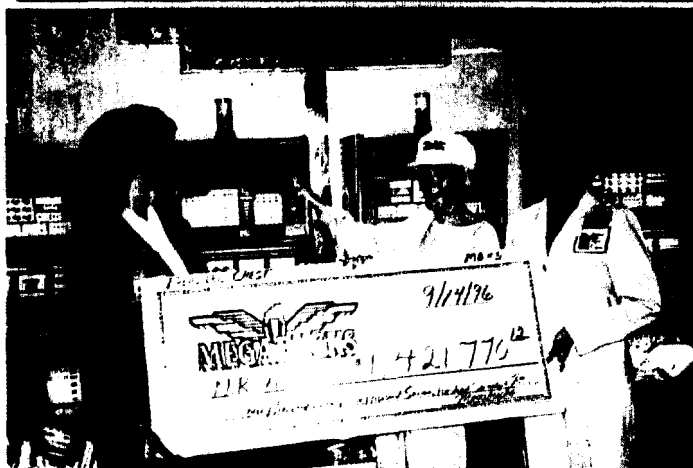
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## Community



### Treasure Chest Casino Has \$1.4 Million Winner

On September 14, 1996, at 6:11 a.m., N. R. Allen's life changed forever. While playing the "MEGABUCKS DOUBLE DIAMOND" progressive slot machine at Treasure Chest Casino, Allen hit the jackpot, winning \$1,421,770.12 in the process.

"I received some junk mail on Friday the 13th and it said this was going to be my lucky day," stated Allen. "I changed my clothes and went for it!"

Allen said she will use her winnings to pay all of her debts and finish remodeling her house that was damaged in the flood of May 1995.

There have only been two Megabucks winners in the New Orleans area in the past two years, and both have been at Treasure Chest Casino. On May 25, Patricia Weber of LaPlace won almost \$1.5 million playing Megabucks at the Treasure Chest. ★

### Pontchartrain Center To Host "New Year's Eve Celebration"

On Tuesday, December 31, 1996, the Pontchartrain Center will host "New Year's Eve Celebration," an evening of food, drink and dance to help welcome in the new year. Festivities are scheduled to get started at 9:00 p.m., lasting until 2:00 a.m.

Partygoers will be served a variety of hot hors d'oeuvres. In addition, an open bar will serve various types of drinks. Live entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by the ever-popular group,

#### "THE BOOGIEMAN."

Before the clock strikes twelve, party favors and champagne will be given to everyone to help celebrate the start of another new year. At midnight, a breakfast buffet will be served to everyone in attendance.

Tickets to the "New Year's Eve Celebration" are priced at \$150 per couple. Tables of eight are available for groups that wish to sit together. For reservations, call Selina at (504) 465-9985. ★

### Kenner Jazzercise Center Celebrates 2-Year Anniversary

On Wednesday, October 9, 1996, The Kenner Jazzercise Center will celebrate its second year of business at 3729 Williams Boulevard in Kenner. The anniversary celebration will include music, prizes throughout the night, dancing to the latest hits and food prepared on the premises by Chef Gilberti from *Semolina's*. Tickets to the affair are priced at \$10, with all proceeds going to The Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the largest U.S. private funder of breast cancer research.

"We are proud to be in a business that benefits so many women on an everyday basis," states Yvette Dussouy,

owner/instructor of the Jazzercise Center. "Medical evidence tells us that exercising regularly 4-5 times a week reduces stress, lowers bad cholesterol levels and prevents osteoporosis. Most importantly, it lessens the chances of contracting the two most fatal diseases for women, heart disease and breast cancer. All of us feel that Jazzercise is preventive medicine. Music and dancing are an easy pill to swallow! This benefit, and events like it, are the least we can do."

For more information about the benefit celebration or to purchase a ticket, call The Kenner Jazzercise Center at 443-6666. ★



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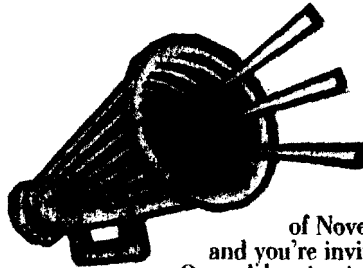


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# KENNER



Kenner is celebrating the entire month

of November, and you're invited.

Our celebration includes great shopping, special events for the entire family, and free weekend admission to Rivertown museums.

Everyday you and your family will enjoy a potpourri of special value-rich shopping at participating Kenner restaurants and businesses, as well as exciting sports and cultural events.

So plan to join the Kenner Open House celebration - all of November - and we think you'll be back all year 'round.

**October 31**

**Open House Kick Off Celebration**

12 noon - Laketown Gazebo & Halloween Pumpkin Patch (Williams Blvd. at the Lake). Sponsored by Treasure Chest Casino.

**November 1 - 30**

**Kenner "Coat Drop For the Needy"**  
All Rivertown Museums.

**November 1 - 4**

**"All Saints Alumni Week"**

**Nov. 1** "Saints Hall of Fame Induction Luncheon"

Hyatt Regency New Orleans, 12 noon

"All Saints Night"

Saints Hall of Fame

Patron party 6 - 7 pm

Gala 7 - 9 pm

**Nov. 2** "Saints Alumni Open House"

Autograph Signing

Saints Hall of Fame 1 - 3 pm

**Nov. 4** "Saints Appreciation Party"

Impastato's Restaurant

6:30 - 9:00 pm

**November 8**

**Veterans Day Celebration**

10 am - Kenner Veterans Park - Unveiling "Century of Sentries" Memorial Airforce in Gulf War. Sponsored by Times Picayune.

**November 13 - 30**

**The Times Picayune**

**Photography Contest Display**

Freeport McMoran Daily Living Science Center - Observatory

**November 14 - December 8**

**Rivertown Repertory Theatre**

Neil Simon's "The Good Doctor"

**November 18**

**Saints Hall of Fame Golf Classic**

Chateau Golf & Country Club

**November 18 - 23**

**Postal Carrier's "Food Drive for the Needy"**

**November 1 - 30**

**Rivertown Fine Art Gallery**

Special gallery showing of Watercolors by Catharina Vandegraaf and Emma W. Palencia

Nov. 16 Reception 6 - 9 pm.

## KENNER CHRISTMAS

**November 30**

**Cox Communications Children's Castle**

12:00 pm - Continuous shows with costumed characters, musicians, and mimes.

4:30 pm - Arrival of Santa

**November 30**

**Coca Cola Christmas Village**

Sponsored by WLTS Lite 105 & KOOL 95 FM

"Opening Event" Kenner Veterans Park

5:15 pm - Santa Claus arrives on Kenner's

antique fire truck to officially light the

Christmas village. Christmas concert by the

Greater New Orleans Area Civic Symphony.

Spectacular light display, carolers, costumed

characters, cottages, food

and entertainment. Christmas

Village open every weekend Nov. 30

to Dec. 20, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

**Rivertown Museums**

Free admission every weekend in November.

Saturday 9 am - 5 pm; Sunday 1 pm - 5 pm

**Freeport McMoran Daily Living**

**Science Center**

**Science Center:**

Entertaining and educational hands-on exhibit.

Free weekend admission sponsored by

WWL-TV Channel 4.

"Tornado Races" - Saturdays 11 am - 2 pm

Daily Demonstrations at the Times Picayune

Color Exhibit and the WWL-TV Weather

Station Exhibit

**Planetarium Shows:** (Admission \$1 per person per show)

Showtimes: Saturdays 10 am, 11 am, noon, 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm; Sundays 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm

"Moon Witch" Nov. 1-8

"Bear Tales" Nov. 9-15

"Daughter of the Stars" Nov. 16-22

"Christmas Star" Nov. 23-30

**Coca Cola Saints Hall of Fame**

(Closed on NFL Sundays)

Saints memorabilia; NFL footage.

Free weekend admission sponsored by

WVUE-TV Fox 8.

**Nov. 2 Autograph signing**

with Saints Alumni 1 - 3 pm

**Cytex Louisiana Wildlife &**

**Fisheries Museum & Aquarium**

Preserved specimens of Louisiana

birds, reptiles and wildlife.

Free weekend admission sponsored by WWL

TV Channel 4.

**Nov. 16 Mayor Louis Congemi presents "A**

**History of Kenner", 10:30 am and 1:30 pm.**

# KENNER HOUSE



**Cannes Brûlée -  
Native American  
Center of the Gulf  
South**

Outdoor exhibit depicting the traditions of the  
Gulf South Native America Louisiana tribes.  
Free weekend admission sponsored by  
WWL-TV Channel 4.

**Louisiana Toy Train Museum**  
Train lover's dream come true.  
Free weekend admission sponsored by  
WVUE-TV Fox 8.

**Treasure Chest Casino Mardi Gras Museum**  
Spectacular Carnival memorabilia and displays  
Free weekend admission sponsored by  
WVUE-TV Fox 8.  
Weekend demonstrations on float  
building and costume making.

**Cox Communications  
Children's Castle**  
Magical shows with  
storytellers, puppeteers,  
musicians and magicians.  
Free weekend admission  
sponsored by Cox  
Communications.

**The Esplanade**  
Nov. 16 Santa Claus arrives at  
The Esplanade.

## **Pontchartrain Center**

Nov. 2 & 3

Steinhauer Arts &  
Crafts Show

Nov. 14 - 16

Louisiana High School  
Athletic Association

Nov. 23 & 24

Bagwell Antique Show

Nov. 26 - Dec. 1

Jerusalem Temple Shrine  
Circus

**Value-Rich Shopping all month  
long at participating Kenner  
Businesses.**

## **Kenner Recreation Department**

Nov. 16 Football  
Championship Games -  
Muss Bertolino Football  
Stadium

Nov. 19 Playground  
Cheerleading Competition, 7 pm -  
Pontchartrain Center

Nov. 23 Gingerbread House  
Demonstration - 9:30 am Fassbender Center

## **Kenner Regional Medical Center**

Wellness Connection of Kenner Regional Medical  
Center - Free Blood Pressure Checks -  
Esplanade Mall - All month long.

## **Treasure Chest Casino**

Slotsgiving Bonanza - Every Monday &  
Wednesday in November

Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Buffet

Nov. 30 Chris Owens - Caribbean Showroom,  
9 - 11pm



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## Children

### BOO-tiful Things On Tap At Children's Castle During the Month of October

The month of October will be a merry, mystical month of *Royal Halloween* fun at Children's Castle, featuring magic shows, storytelling, special craft activities, face painting, "dress-up days" and special surprises. These live shows and presentations will be performed every Saturday at the Rivertown facility.

These matinee performances are made possible, in part, by the Arts Council of New Orleans, through a grant from the Louisiana State Arts Council through the Louisiana Division of the Arts. Support for the Castle is also provided by Cox Commu-

nications and the Friends of Rivertown.

Featured performances for the month of October include:

**OCTOBER 12, 11:00 a.m.**

**DRESS LIKE A GHOST DAY**

Grimelda the Witch and Eonsago the Wizard present "The Wizard & The Witch Magic Show."

**1:00 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.**

Angela the Yarnspinner presents "Giddy, Gabby Ghosts," featuring stories and special crafts.

**OCTOBER 19, 11:00 a.m.**

**COME AS A WITCH DAY**

Irwin Royes presents "The Abracadabra Magic Show."

**1:00 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.**

Angela the Yarnspinner presents "Wacky, Whimsical Witches," featuring special stories and crafts.

**4:00 p.m.**

Allison Reese and Tom Meyer present "Tricks And Treats Show," an all-new show, featuring feats of magic, clowning and the art of pantomime.

**OCTOBER 26, 11:00 a.m.**

**WEAR YOUR HALLOWEEN COSTUME DAY**  
**TRICK OR TREAT IN RIVERTOWN DAY**

Janie Kreisman presents "Grimelda's Brew Day," featuring stories and special crafts.

**1:00 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.**

Greg Baber presents "Slightly Scary Stories."

**4:00 p.m.**

Irwin Royes presents "The Abracadabra Magic Show."

Admission to the Children's Castle performances is priced at \$3 for adults, \$2 for children/senior citizens and \$1 with the purchase of any Rivertown museum admission. The Children's Castle is located at 503 Williams Boulevard in Rivertown. The Box Office opens 30 minutes before each show. Seating is strictly on a "first come-first served" basis.

For additional information about any of the scheduled performances for October, call 469-3236 or 468-7231. ★

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### St. Philip Neri Hosts \$10,000 Raffle

The St. Philip Neri Ladies' Co-Operative and Men's Club will co-sponsor the 4th Annual \$10,000 Benefit Raffle & Cocktail Party. The annual fundraiser, entitled "The Main Event," will be held on Saturday, November 2, 1996, from 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. at the Jefferson Orleans South (2536 Edenborn Avenue in Metairie). The price of admission to this tax-deductible event is \$100, which admits two guests to an evening of continuous food, drink and music. The public is invit-

ed to attend and winners need not be present in order to win.

The proceeds from this year's "Main Event" will be deposited for the Multipurpose Building to be built in the future. For additional information regarding this event or to purchase a ticket, please contact Michelle Lambert (454-7285), Kevin Collins (443-6328), Tony Staines (456-6356), Harry Block (454-3944) or the St. Philip Neri office (887-5600). ★

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Donations are "TAX DEDUCTIBLE" to the maximum extent of the law.

A United Way Agency

### FROM THE EDITOR

(continued from page 2)

next decade. That is certainly a lot of money that will not have to come from taxpayers who never play video poker.

There's a real chance Jefferson voters may decide to keep the video games on November 5.

### Presidential and U.S. Senate

On November 5, Bob Dole and Woody Jenkins will lead in Kenner and carry Jefferson Parish. At the moment, it looks like President Clinton will carry Louisiana, but Jenkins is running ahead of Mary Landrieu in the Senate race and could be the first Republican elected to the U.S. Senate from Louisiana in this century. ★

### POLITICAL REVIEW

(continued from page 2)

mal-looking family and lives in a normal Southern mansion which is impressive, but not as grand, as either of the governor's. Speaking of whom, Jenkins will look less and less extreme once Mike Foster, the congressional delegation, state legislators and defeated Republican candidates begin lining up for him.

As for issues, most of Jenkins' views fit within the broad current of the new conservative mainstream. Cutting off welfare benefits was once considered extreme; now, it's the law. And, most voters realize that we are not going to abolish the IRS, but they don't mind someone trying.

The greater danger of calling someone extreme is that it also reflects on that candidate's potential voters. To call a candidate a dirty, lying dog is just fine, but call him extreme and you're suggesting that anyone who votes for him is nuts, too. David Duke got many of his votes because conservatives resented being all but dared to vote for him. Never dare the voters.

This campaign has gone from the possibility of an all-Democratic runoff to a Republican leading the polls in the final race. It will go down to the wire and should also pull the presidential contest a lot closer. ★

John Maginnis is one of Louisiana's foremost political journalists and commentators. Furthermore, he is the author of two books on Louisiana politics. He edits and publishes The Louisiana Political Review and writes a weekly syndicated column on politics for newspapers across the state.



## The Crimper

By ED CLANCY

It all happened a long time ago. I've tried to forget about it, but it keeps coming back to me, usually in my dreams. Make that nightmares. I'm sure there's something in your life that keeps popping up in your dreams. Maybe you're taking that trigonometry final in high school. You know ... the one you flunked big time. Or, maybe, like me, you find yourself in the middle of a snap inspection in boot camp, you have a three-day beard and your uniform's a mess. Just when the sergeant puts his face right in yours and starts yelling real loud — you tell him, "Stuff it, Sarge, this is a dream, and I'm waking up RIGHT NOW." And you do ... sweating profusely, your heart pounding, but with a smile on your face because you realize you don't really have to finish the inspection. That's the way it is with me and The Crimper. I'll start at the beginning...

When I was seventeen years old, it dawned on me that I would need some money to buy books and lunch at college. I was starting at Syracuse University in the fall, and I had never really had a full-time job (unless you count the time I set pins at the local four-lane bowling alley in those days before automatic pin setters. If you've never "jumped alleys" — meaning setting pins for two alleys at the same time — you haven't lived. But, I digress).

So, my dad set me up with a summer job working for Dave Prindle, who had a farm up the road a piece. Even though I was brought up on my grandfather's farm, I had only helped out with the haying two or three days a year, and was never really called on to do any hard work. (When I got into broadcasting, we used to say, "Hey ... radio's better than working for a living." But, I'm digressing again.) I had to be at the Prindle farm at 5:30 every morning, and quitting time was 5:30 in the afternoon. Mrs. Prindle fed us, but not before we had cleaned out the barn, that is to say, scraped the "cow pies" into the gutters. The barn being cow pie-free, we got to eat one of the most bodacious breakfasts ever served to a growing boy.

Then, it was off to the fields to help with the haying. This consisted mainly of lifting huge bales of hay onto wagons, and "mowing" them away when we got back to the barn. (That's "mow," as in "ow".) This went on for 12 hours a day, and those bales were not like the ones we had on my grandfather's farm. They were twice as long and ten times as heavy. And, I had the great misfortune to have been born with a hernia that we could

never afford to have fixed.

At night, I would arrive home with each and every bone, muscle and vital organ aching, nay, throbbing, with pain. I would throw down some food and head for bed where I would sleep, as if in a coma, until one parent or the other would drag me out of bed again in the morning.

I actually found this manual labor to be somewhat educational. For instance, I learned how to drive a tractor, something I had never been allowed to do on my grandfather's farm. And, I was introduced to the Crimper. This was a piece of farm machinery resembling a giant push-lawn mower (that's "mow," as in "ow"), which was hooked on to the back of the John Deere, and used to squeeze the juice out of freshly cut hay so it would dry faster and be put into bales sooner, before the rains came.

At the end of the second week of my employment, I looked at my watch and noticed it was 5:00 p.m. I said to Dave, "Hey, Dave, what say you let us go early tonight." He said, "Okay, but I want you to take the John Deere and go crimp the back lot, and then you can go." Oh well, at least I wouldn't have to lift any of those cement bales of hay for the rest of the day.

I jumped on the John Deere and headed off to the back lot, where I found the crimper sitting in the middle of the freshly cut hay. I backed up the tractor to the tongue of the crimper, preparing to drop the bolt through the hole in the end of the tongue which meshed with the holes on the tractor hardware. But, the holes didn't line up, so I couldn't drop the bolt through to fasten the crimper to the tractor. I needed to jump back up to the driver's seat to back the tractor up just a little in order to align the holes. As I leaped up onto the tractor, my arm hit the stick throttle, and the John Deere traveled up the tongue and over the crimper. The tractor was on TOP of the crimper, with the huge tractor wheels on the ground behind the crimper wheels. As I think back on it now, it must have looked as though the tractor and the crimper were mating.

There I sat in the hot afternoon sun. My most embarrassing moment, witnessed only by God and the angels. My heart raced. What am I going to do now? Then, my mind went back to a recent high school lecture. In a discussion of adrenaline, our Biology teacher, Mr. Fetterman, had told how, when a refrigerator in his home caught fire, he lifted the fringe and carried it safely out of the house. His words stayed with me: "If you're SCARED enough, you can lift ANYTHING."

Taking my cue, I put the gearshift in neutral, jumped down from the seat and went behind the tractor. I proceeded to try and lift the tractor off the crimper. I didn't lift as much as I rocked the tractor up and down ... up and down. With each "rock,"

the tractor went a little higher. As I rocked, I prayed. Pray and rock, rock and pray. Dear God, get me out of this mess and I'll join the priesthood. I had no idea how much a crimper cost, but I knew I didn't have it on me. Finally, I gave one last push-lift — cue the angel chorus — the tractor went up and on top of the crimper. I had LIFTED the tractor off the crimper! Now, all I had to do was get up on the tractor and drive it down off the crimper — no mean feat as I had to make sure the tractor tire didn't slip off the tongue.

After the tractor — and I — landed safely on the ground, I immediately checked the crimper to see what horrible damage I would have to pay for. All I saw was a teeny-tiny dent in the fender. My brain could not believe what my eyes were seeing. One lousy, little dent. I got on my knees and looked upward: "Thank you, God. And — I'll get back to you about the priesthood."

I jumped back on the tractor, crimped the hay in world-record time and high-tailed it back to the barn. Saying a quick good-night to Dave Prindle, I hopped in my '52 Chevy and made tracks for home.

I never went back to work, and I

never told Dave Prindle about the crimper. I never told anybody for more than 20 years. It was the most scared I ever was, or ever would be.

I never became a priest, either. I didn't feel bad about that because Father Paul had always told us that a promise made to God while your tractor is sitting on top of a crimper is not binding. Or words to that effect.

The only moral I ever got out of the whole thing was that, yes, you can lift anything if you're scared enough. Even with a hernia.

Thank you, God. And, thank you, Mr. Fetterman. I'll see you in my dreams. ★

Ed Clancy is the host of "Kenner In Motion," a 30-minute informative community program that airs at 6:30 p.m. on the Government Access Channel (Cox Cable Channel 6). The program, designed to provide updated public information on a variety of topics to all Kenner residents, airs on Friday and Saturday during the week of Kenner City Council meetings. The Kenner City Council's Thursday meetings, taped for rebroadcast, air at 7:00 p.m., immediately following "Kenner In Motion."



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**By BEN OSBORN**

At the end of my work day, many people often remark, "How can you paint all day and not have any paint on you?"

I guess the answer is partly an unconscious desire to remain clean, along with a few tricks I have picked up over the years. All I can say about the "unconscious" part of my answer is that concentration is the biggest factor. This part of painting cannot be taught. Rather, it is part of a strong work ethic. The "tricks" associated with keeping clean are fairly simple and mostly involve common sense.

My first recommendation for NEAT painting is to wipe the lid with your brush as soon as you open a new can of paint. Taking the time to do this simple task accomplishes three things:

- 1) The lid remains clean and "drip-free."
- 2) The paint left on the lid can now dry quickly, thus preventing any future mess.
- 3) The lid won't form a heavy "skin"

## Home

### How To Paint "Neatly"

that will fall into the paint when the can is closed, thereby ruining the remaining paint in the can.

After pouring paint from the can into the roller bucket, the rim of the paint can should be wiped dry with the brush. This keeps the brush handle clean when you set it on the bucket. Keeping the brush handle clean is the single most important factor in being a neat painter.

Another good thing to remember is to periodically clean each side of the paintbrush on the rim of the can. This works wonders to keep paint from oozing out of the heel of the paintbrush and onto the wooden handle.

Whenever you see a drop of paint fall, immediately wipe it up, even if the paint falls on your dropcloth. Wiping up all drips and spills will prevent you from kneeling in wet paint later on or tracking the paint around if you happen to step in it.

A damp cloth or rag should always be

kept handy. It is inevitable that drips and spills are going to occur. Spending a few moments to clean up your mess will keep "accidents" from getting any worse.

It is also very helpful to wipe your hands on the paint rag instead of your clothes. Rinsing the rag frequently helps keep excess paint from spoiling your appearance as well as your job.

When dipping the roller frame into a bucket or tray, be careful not to submerge the handle into the paint or it might drip when removed. If this happens, use the brush or rag to clean the frame before starting to roll.

Hopefully, these tips will save you a lot of time and help make painting a more enjoyable experience. **GOOD LUCK & GOOD PAINTING!!!** ★

*Ben Osborn is the owner of Osborn Painting, Inc., located in Kenner.*

## Business

### Georgy's Introduces Expanded Line of Salon Services



**Pam Georgy**

Renovations are nearing completion at Georgy's Hair Studio, located at 3535 Chateau Boulevard in Kenner. "Our new European Touch Massage/Pedicure Chair will be

in operation very soon," stated Pam Georgy, owner/operator of Georgy's Hair Studio. "We've been renovating for almost four months, but the end is now in sight."

"Lots of salons around the country are going to an expanded menu of salon services," commented Georgy. "However, no other facility in Kenner is providing all of the services we offer, so I feel good in knowing that I am starting a new trend."

As Georgy pointed out, therapeutic massage and foot reflexology provide far-reaching benefits, not only from a physical standpoint, but also mentally and spiritually. "The spa-pedicure relaxes muscles in the feet and helps to balance the body," added Georgy. "This will be the ultimate in foot care treatment, as administered by our professional nail technicians, Angie Shapiro and Michelle Mathas."

"Most of our customers are hard-working women who come to the salon to look and feel better," stated Georgy. "The foot reflexology service does an excellent job with stress management, helping to relieve a lot of the tension and anxiety that build up in the course of working at a

job." From start to finish, the pedicure service treatment requires approximately 45 minutes. A spa manicure and pedicure requires 90 minutes.

"I am also very happy to introduce Charmaine Dupont, a licensed massage therapist, to our salon," commented Georgy. Dupont, a graduate of the Blue Cliff School of Therapeutic Massage, will handle all massage services at Georgy's. Dupont provides several types of service, including sports massage (a deep tissue manipulation of the legs, back and neck), Swedish massage, deep tissue sculpting, Shiatsu, and foot reflexology. These services are presently offered on Mondays and Wednesdays, by appointment only. Foot reflexology appointments can be scheduled in 30-minute or 60-minute sessions.

As a way to introduce customers to these new services, gift certificates will be on sale at a 10% discount in October. "What an excellent gift to give someone for Christmas, birthday or anniversary," remarked Georgy. "You could even treat yourself to something nice."

As Georgy explained, "We never become complacent around here. We are always looking for new ways to upgrade and improve our menu of salon offerings."

To that end, aromatherapy products, purifying facials and herbal body wraps are some of the new services that Georgy will be offering in the near future. "With all of the new technology coming out, we will also be expanding our professional hair care, skin care and body care products," said Georgy. ★

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By KEITH REYNAUD

Few poisons are as lethal as carbon monoxide (CO). This colorless, odorless, tasteless gas, produced by the incomplete combustion of carbonaceous material, strikes very secretly, often without the victim being aware of the attack. Because you cannot taste, smell or see carbon monoxide, victims seldom have any reason

## Home

# The Carbon Monoxide Threat: Silent, But Deadly

to suspect that there is a clear and present danger.

In most cases, victims are overcome while they are sleeping. People who have been poisoned by low-level exposure to carbon monoxide often mistake the early symptoms of headache, dizziness and nausea for the initial signs of a cold or the flu.

Once inhaled into the lungs, carbon monoxide is quickly diffused into the bloodstream, thereby inhibiting the blood's capacity to transport oxygen throughout the body. As CO levels build up in the blood, oxygen deprivation to vital tissues results, eventually leading to brain damage. Within minutes, at higher concentration levels, CO poisoning can be fatal.

While everyone is at risk, unborn babies, infants, senior citizens and people with coronary or respiratory problems are most susceptible to CO poisoning. If the victim is pregnant, CO poisoning can quickly harm the fetus.

Carbon monoxide is produced when fuels such as natural gas, propane, heating oil, kerosene, coal charcoal, gasoline or wood burn with insufficient air. Homes with a fuel-fired furnace or space heater, wood-burning stove, fireplace, attached garage, gas appliances or gas hot water heater are especially vulnerable. In these energy-conscious times in which we live, everyone wants to save on utility costs by thoroughly weatherproofing their home.

However, if your house is tightly sealed against the elements, CO pollution becomes trapped in your home much easier, thus increasing your exposure to the gas and the subsequent danger of poisoning.

In an effort to protect yourself and your family from the evils of carbon monoxide, here are some steps that you can take:

- 1) Have your furnace and heating system inspected for leaks annually by a heating specialist.
- 2) Have your chimney and flue cleaned by a professional.
- 3) Make certain that burner flames on furnaces and stoves are blue in color, not yellow or orange.
- 4) Never run an automobile or gasoline engine in an enclosed space (e.g., inside a garage).

If you ever suffer from dizziness, nausea, fatigue or headache while you are at home, a first course of action is to leave the house. If you begin to feel better when you get outside, you may be experiencing CO poisoning. It would be wise to consult a doctor and get a carboxyhemoglobin test in order to determine the percentage of carbon monoxide in your blood. ★

Keith Reynaud is the owner of A & H Service Company, located at 3901 Williams Boulevard in Kenner.

## Getting Your Lawn And Gardens Ready For Upcoming Fall and Winter Seasons

By RITA DIMM



Is fall finally here? With the cooler temperatures we have been experiencing the last few days, I think fall is on the scene.

With the arrival of a new season, marked in part by cooler weather, it is time to begin thinking about "winterizing" your lawn and gardens. Although this can be done any time from now through December, you might want to get this task accomplished as soon as possible. After all, never put off until tomorrow what can be done today.

Winterizer is a great root building fertilizer to use because the roots of trees, shrubs, and your lawn continue to grow throughout the winter months. By feeding everything with Winterizer, you help to protect the root system of the plants, especially at a time when the weather is a lot harsher and colder.

If you are still having trouble with mole crickets, fleas, or ants, you need to sprinkle a bag of Dursban granules over the entire lawn. This chemical is very effective at killing pests before they can cause damage to your lawn and gardens.

October is also a good month to check all of your garden plants for insects that might overwinter and multiply to give you problems in the spring. Use some Malathion and some "dormant" oil or oil spray to help tackle this problem. Spray everything in your garden once a week for three weeks. This will help get rid of insects before they have a chance to overwinter. (NOTE: Do not spray Malathion on ferns in your garden!)

Did you plant your spring-blooming bulbs yet? If not, now is the time to get them into the ground. Bulbs that are available at this time include daffodil, Dutch iris,

crocus, anemone, ranunculus, tulip, and hyacinth. Remember, tulip and hyacinth bulbs need to be chilled in the refrigerator for 6-8 weeks before planting. Iris and daffodil bulbs, on the other hand, are the easiest bulbs to plant and grow because they do not need to be chilled before planting. Likewise, iris and daffodil multiple quite easily, repeating year after year. If you have a "brown thumb," try planting paperwhites in your garden. Give them a little water and some sunshine and, in about seven days, you will see foliage sprouting up everywhere. In another 6-8 weeks, you will have blossoms — I guarantee it!

Whatever type of spring-blooming bulbs you opt to plant, remember to fertilize them with bone meal. When you plant the bulb, place a little bone meal in the hole and then sidedress every 4-6 weeks with additional bone meal.

If you want to try your hand at fall gardening, now is the time to get started. You should be able to find transplants of tomatoes, cabbages, cauliflower and collards at your local garden center or nursery. Seed is also available to plant peas, radishes, onions, turnips, carrots, lettuce and shallots. Once again, don't forget to fertilize everything in your fall garden. If you begin to notice caterpillars and/or worms on your plants, get some Sevin, Dipel, or any other type of vegetable dust and sprinkle generously on your plants. Remember, these pests like to feed at night, so do your dusting late in the day.

If you still want to add some color to your gardens, bedding plants designed for winter planting are still available. Some of the selections that you may find include sweet alyssum, petunia, pansy, dusty miller, snapdragon, ornamental cabbage and kale, viola and dianthus. These annuals will bloom nicely throughout the winter and well into the spring. Do not forget to fertilize your winter annuals with Growers Special in order to keep them healthy and full of blooms.

Don't forget to buy your sweet pea seeds for planting in October, November or December. Remember, sweet peas like cool

weather so wait a while before you put these seeds into the ground.

As you can see, there is so much to be done in the yard and garden this month. Until next month, HAPPY GARDENING!!! ★

Rita Dimm is the manager of Dimm's Garden Center, located at 3209 Georgia Avenue in Kenner.

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By **KAREN KRAAK WOOD**  
Director of Community Relations  
Treasure Chest Casino

On November 5, 1996, the people of Jefferson Parish will decide if riverboat

gaming can continue. To make that decision, they must ask themselves: *How is my community better because of riverboat gaming?*

To this question, I would like to review a few facts.

**FACT NUMBER 1:**  
Since opening in September 1994,

Treasure Chest Casino has donated more than \$600,000 to charities and community projects throughout Jefferson Parish and the Greater New Orleans area.

The recipients of these donations range from emergency resources, such as Second Harvester's Food Bank and American Red Cross, to diverse organizations such as American Heart Association, the Louisiana Special Olympics and Kenner Cares. Treasure Chest Casino has been one of the largest single contributors to the United Way in Jefferson Parish. Last year, the 1996 contribution to United Way exceeded \$45,000.

Quality of life has been impacted in other ways by the presence of Treasure Chest. This year, thousands of dollars in scholarships were awarded to Jefferson Parish high school students pursuing higher educational goals. In addition, Treasure Chest has supported many area cultural entities, such as Rivertown Repertory Theatre and the Jefferson Performing Arts Society.

**FACT NUMBER 2:**

The next fact for voters to consider is one that directly affects their own finances — taxes. Since opening, Treasure Chest Casino has paid more than \$50 million in state and local government revenues.

Locally, this money has been used for capital projects, such as street repairs, new police and fire vehicles and to improve area parks and playgrounds.

Nick Congemi, Kenner's Chief of Police, has said that Treasure Chest donations have enabled the Kenner Police Department to provide their officers with on-the-job advantages they would not normally have.

These advantages included new police cars, bulletproof vests, radios and .40-caliber weapons for all police officers. In other areas that do not enjoy revenue from Treasure Chest Casino, officers are forced to purchase their own weapons. Kenner's police officers are the best outfitted and best supported force in the area.

Police Chief Congemi says that the extra revenue received from Treasure Chest by his department has allowed him to hire more officers at starting salaries that are higher than salaries paid by neighboring parishes. This has helped Kenner attract some of the best and brightest law enforcement professionals in the area.

**FACT NUMBER 3:**

Impact on the local economy is a key issue which voters must consider in November. Since it opened, Treasure Chest Casino has spent a total of \$44.7 million on employee salaries and benefits. The additional ripple effect of those salaries translates into a total economic

impact of \$67 million by only one riverboat casino.

Seventy-five (75) percent of the more than 1,200 people employed by Treasure Chest Casino live in Jefferson Parish. With Treasure Chest paychecks, they support local families and frequent local businesses. When the casino built its \$11 million Entertainment Complex last year, more than 150 full-time construction workers were also employed.

The casino's meaningful impact on the Kenner community is not limited to steady paychecks for employees or donations to community organizations.

Businesses that provide goods and services to Treasure Chest Casino also benefit from the casino's success. Treasure Chest has paid more than \$29 million to Louisiana businesses for products and services in the past two years. In addition, \$6.3 million has been spent with minority and women-owned businesses in the state.

In the words of Cindy Thaller, owner of Evergreen Florist on Williams Boulevard, "The Treasure Chest has been a positive influence all around." Furthermore Thaller says that her business neighbors near the casino site who were originally opposed to riverboat gaming have since changed their minds. "I think the business community would agree that Treasure Chest has been a wonderful addition to the neighborhood — both economically and socially," stated Thaller.

But, Treasure Chest's strengthening of the local business climate does not stop after the accounting department has paid the vendor bills.

The casino works hand-in-hand with the Kenner Convention & Visitors Bureau to ensure the continued growth of tourism in the area. Treasure Chest helps market Jefferson Parish as a potential destination for both vacationers and business travelers.

Sharon Solomon, director of the Convention & Visitors Bureau, says that "Treasure Chest is a godsend. Recently, they helped bring last year's Girls AAU Basketball Tournament to Kenner, a move that brought millions of dollars into the Kenner economy."

Jobs, taxes, business and social support are the by-products of the strong economic engine that is Treasure Chest Casino. With this in mind, I strongly urge the people of Kenner and Jefferson Parish to go to the polls on November 5 and vote to keep this engine running full speed ahead.★

*Karen Kraak Wood is the Director of Community Relations for Treasure Chest Casino, under the management direction of Boyd Gaming Corporation.*

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## Editorial

# Publisher's Pilgrimage: An Editorial

The *New American Dictionary* has two definitions for the word *pilgrimage*, the first being, "a journey to a sacred place or shrine." A second interpretation defines the term as "a long search." By the time this piece is published, it is highly likely that thousands of people will have converged upon Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Rivertown to observe what many are calling a miracle.

When I first heard about the weeping icon of Mary, my first thought was: "Would it be possible to make a pilgrimage, in either sense of the word, simply by driving down Williams Boulevard?"

"It isn't possible," was my initial reaction. The Blessed Mother? In Kenner? Past the tattoo parlor and the fast food franchises? Over the railroad tracks and across the street from the Rivertown Repertory Theatre? Yet, by all accounts, even less than a week after the picture had been reported to have begun its extraordinary exhibition, lines started forming around the block. Good news travels fast, I guess. Evidently, whatever skepticism my own mind may have harbored at the time was not a deterrent to the ones who had come from as far away as Florida for the opportunity to make an informed judgment. The faith of these people moved me. If they could travel hundreds of miles, surely I could drive five.

My journey started on the following Friday afternoon. I stopped at one of the previously mentioned fast food establishments. Surely it was something that pilgrims in medieval times had not done. "Ye Olde Chicken In A Bucket" never did get mentioned in *The Canterbury Tales*. However, I used my time there to gauge what I thought I would see once I got to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. How would it affect me? What would happen if I saw nothing? Would I be able to get a parking space? Should I approach the situation as a journalist or as a believer?

As I took my last few bites of lunch, I resolved to drive the remaining couple of miles with an "open mind," just in case either situation should demand my attention. It was the right choice, I think. Nevertheless, the journey continued.

There wasn't the traffic or general mayhem that I expected. When I approached, I saw only a single line comprised mostly of people on their lunch breaks. I took my place at the back of the group.

"Are you a parishioner here?" I asked the woman in front of me.

"No, we're from St. Matthew's parish."

"Are they going to be able to hold services this weekend?" I further inquired. I felt it was a logical question.

"It'll probably be packed to the limit," she responded.

I kept my ears open to the stories around me, and there seemed to be a lot of them to hear. People were there to pray for a sick loved one or to offer up a son who had not been to church in years. They were reminiscing about past pilgrimages to Medjugorje and the life-changing events they had witnessed while there. Steadily, I moved to the front of the line, and, upon being the next who would



An icon similar to this has been reportedly weeping at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rivertown.

be ushered inside, I read a note posted on the door. It was a disclaimer of sorts, stating that what was happening did not necessarily have a supernatural explanation, but it was a good thing in itself that you were willing to take time out to pray to God.

It was then that I heard someone behind me say, "You know, even if this turns out to be nothing, I'd still have my miracle. Just look at all of the people who showed up to see this. That's the miracle."

I thought about what the lady said. I agreed with her every word. In a world where we are told every night on the ten o'clock news how savage we are as a society, it really was a miracle to see people coming out en masse for the sake of what they believe is nurturing, positive and (dare I use the word again) good. There was merit to the argument that the "miracle" was the effect the renewed sense of belief would have on the people here today and tomorrow. These same people would find the strength to sit with their sick cousin one more hour than they otherwise would have, or call long distance to be reconciled with an estranged sister. That thought was "moving" to me.

The door opened and a group of twenty was led to the first stopping point. There were three groups ahead of us, one already standing in front of the picture itself. A few in the group strained to see the far wall. It was then that our first usher came to give us some guidelines. Once again, there was the disclaimer, followed by the affirmation.

"Just by the fact that you've come here today to find God, you've already been blessed." The usher told us that there was no time schedule for when the tears started, only that she had seen them. We moved to the second waiting point.

Our second usher led us in a Hail Mary and then answered some questions from the group.

"Has the archdiocese been out yet?" one man asked.

"No, but they gave us their permission to continue allowing people in, so we're not dis-

obeying them." Then, she proceeded to hand out card-sized likenesses of the icon that the archdiocese had sent over for distribution to the crowds.

"We've got ten thousand more people coming on Monday. I hope we don't run out until then."

I was still a fair distance from the picture. From where I was standing, I couldn't see any evidence that anything was out of the ordinary. My group was led to the front of the church where we were instructed to use the kneelers, two by two, limiting ourselves to a short prayer before stepping aside for another person to see. My first seconds before the icon were spent looking around frantically, not realizing that I had not allowed my eyes to adjust. But, when they did...

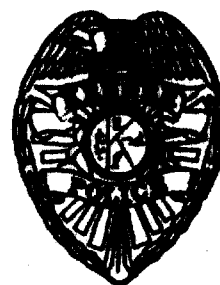
I consider myself to be a logical man, someone capable of being objective. That day, I had checked my own personal beliefs "at the door," so to speak. On this day, I was simply an observer, nothing more. We all saw them. The tears. Beginning right where the eyes were painted, and running off the canvas on both the likenesses of the Blessed Mother and infant Jesus, I saw the tears. I saw no leaks from the roof or pipes jutting out of the wall. It looked as though the icon was really crying. When my turn came to kneel, I felt like I really needed to kneel. As I write this,

the short hairs on the back of my neck are still standing. After my prayer, I walked to the back of the church, still in awe of what my senses had just perceived.

Maybe you are wondering what is my point in relating this story. After all, newspapers are supposed to present both sides of the story, right? I suppose many people will read this and feel that I should have interviewed an expert in strange occurrences. The expert could then state, for the record, that the alignment of Mars, combined with the humidity level in New Orleans, is responsible for the crying effect. I can only write about what I saw.

I also understand that not everyone standing in line will see what I witnessed. Maybe next month will reveal shocking photos of an altar server with a water pistol hidden behind a fern. Even if that should be the case, though, I still think there's merit in the whole phenomenon.

Anyone's return to faith, regardless of the form it takes, is a miracle. Any return to hope is a blessing. I have no doubt that every person who stood in line with me will take a little something positive away from the experience, even if it is only a remembrance of the day when all seemed possible. That's a thought that all of us should carry on this pilgrimage we call life. ★



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## Entertainment

# Gobs Of Ghoulish Fun At The Treasure Chest In October

Treasure Chest Casino has come up with a package of fun-filled ways in which to earn cash and prizes during the month of October. Heading the list is the "Witches Brew of Wealth Give-away," in which a total of \$20,000 will be given away. A \$500 drawing will be held four times a day, every Tuesday and Thursday, in October. Drawing times are at 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. All unclaimed prize money will be given away in one HUGE drawing on Halloween night, October 31, at 11:00 p.m.

Another money-making offer for October is the "Guys and Ghouls Slot Tournament," set to take place on October 29-30, 1996. Twenty-five cash prizes will be awarded, including the grand

prize of \$3,000. The tournament is limited to 150 entrants. For more information about the tournament or to sign up to participate (a \$50 entry fee is required), stop by the Player's Club Booth at Treasure Chest.

On October 13, Treasure Chest will host "Battle of the Bands," a fun-filled evening of musical entertainment in which two bands will "duke it out" from 4:00 - 10:00 p.m.

As Linus, a popular cartoon character in the *Peanuts* comic strip might say, "It's the Great Pumpkin!" Starting October 25, Treasure Chest will host a festive "Pumpkin Patch" in the gazebo area next to the casino. All proceeds from the sale of pumpkins will be split between Second

Harvester's Food Bank and Friends of Rivertown. The "Pumpkin Patch" is open Monday - Friday from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., and Saturday - Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

On Sunday, October 27, Treasure Chest will host a pumpkin decorating contest for children. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners. Children can register their pumpkin into the contest from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., with judging set to commence at 6:00 p.m.

On a final note, Treasure Chest will be "comping" an avant garde clock to all players who earn 5,000 points on their Player's Club cards in October. ★

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*Jim Vance*  
PHOTOGRAPHY



## Travel



By LaDEAN RADA

# Winter Ski Vacations — Easy, Affordable and Fun

Now that summer is officially over, it is time to begin thinking about that exciting winter vacation in the snow. Many people are really "bummed" about the end of hot, sunny weather, until they start thinking about snow-covered mountains.

Perhaps you have been dreaming about a wintry ski vacation, but you simply don't know where to go to fulfill this dream. A quick visit to your local travel agency can help turn a dream into reality.

For first-time skiers with families who are on a limited budget, you might consider flying to Albuquerque, New Mexico and then driving up to Taos or Angel Fire. If your budget permits, Steamboat Springs is a wonderful place for children. One cost-saving feature is the fact that children ski free on an adult lift ticket. Another excellent vacation spot for skiing is Winter Park. Good ski schools and lessons are easy to obtain in this winter paradise.

Some people are hesitant about taking a ski vacation for fear they will not enjoy themselves. Others have family members who have no intention of skiing for a host of reasons (lack of desire, poor health, age, lack of athleticism, etc.). What can a non-skier do in a place like Steamboat Springs, Winter Park or any other "winter wonderland?"

Aside from remarkable restaurants and store after store of shopping pleasure, non-skiers can snow mobile and/or

snowboard. Others may find enjoyment and relaxation in ice skating or taking a sleigh ride. And, don't underestimate the scenery! What a beautiful sight it is to stand back and enjoy the vista of mountains covered with snow and skiers twirling down the slopes. Nearly all of the popular resorts, including Aspen, Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Snowmass, Park City, Snowbird and Jackson Hole, offer wonderful winter recreation for all ages.

If you have never skied before, don't be intimidated. Your travel agent can go over everything you will need to bring and what to expect when you get there. Certainly, you will need lodging, airline tickets, lift tickets and information on ski rentals and lessons. According to your needs or those of your family, a travel agent can offer suggestions about which properties to try first.

If you have a really good time on your skiing vacation, you might want to try another property each time until you can determine your favorite(s). Winter vacations are becoming more and more popular every year. Because so many people are busy during the summer months and the kids are committed to playing sports at the playground, summer vacations are simply not feasible. However, the extended winter holidays offered by schools makes a "Winter Getaway" look nicer and nicer.

Don't hesitate! Make the move and take a ski trip this winter. ★

*LaDean Rada is the owner of Rada's World of Travel, located at 903 Williams Boulevard in Kenner. Rada's World of Travel, established in 1976, is Kenner's first and oldest travel agency.*

## Community

# Sugarbuster Diet Author To Speak At WBOA Meeting

The Women Business Owner's Association (WBOA) will conduct its monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 1996, at Bacco's Restaurant, located at 310 Chartres Street in New Orleans. The WBOA, founded in 1979, works to establish women business owners as an integral and influential element of the business community. In addition, the agency promotes the success of women-owned businesses.

The WBOA meets on the third Wednesday of every month, with a 30-minute networking session commencing at 11:30 a.m., followed by the meeting and lunch at 12:00 p.m. Generally, the meetings focus on business,

cultural, economic, health and political issues, as addressed by keynote speakers.

The featured speaker at the October meeting will be Luis Valart, M.D., co-author of the dietary book *Sugarbusters*. Dr. Valart will speak about his new sugarbuster diet.

As is always the case, advanced reservations are required to attend the luncheon meeting. The deadline for reservations is October 11, 1996.

For more information about joining the WBOA or to make a reservation for the luncheon meeting, call 456-0505. ★

## History

# Local Squadron Makes "Silk Purse Out Of Sow's Ear"

When a piece of military equipment is no longer needed, it often sits somewhere, collecting dust and getting rusty. Such was NOT the case when the Louisiana Air National Guard's 122nd Bomb Squadron took a "relic" A-26 INVADER that had been lying in the tall grass in Santiago, Chile, and turned it into a museum piece.

"We basically took a sow's ear, added some dedicated veterans, and came out with a silk purse," stated Dave Callen, secretary of the 122nd Bomb Squadron Veterans Association.

The aging, but talented, members of the twice activated squadron of the Louisiana Air National Guard (World War II and Korean War) used their never forgotten skills to turn the hulk of metal into the showpiece that it now is. The A-26 INVADER that saw service in WWII, Korea and Viet Nam will be the centerpiece of the Jackson Barracks' new "Air Display."

The project, almost five years from planning to completion, was the idea of the small founding group of the 122nd Veterans

Association. Since its inception, the group has grown to almost 150 in size. The technical part of the renovation was supervised by Claude Spies and Pat Brady.

The A-26 was airlifted from Chile into Moisant Field and trucked to Jackson Barracks by the Air Guard's engineering Group. From there, the veterans took over, transforming the old plane into the proud centerpiece of the Jackson Barracks' new air display.

"We can be justly proud of what we have accomplished," stated Clarence Eckel-

mann, chairman of the entire project.

"I could not be more proud of a group of men as these," explained Robert Monsted, Jr., former Commanding Officer whose name is emblazoned as pilot of the craft. "They said they were going to do it and they did. This honor humbles me. Believe me, it is a beautiful renovation and worthy of being at the forefront of Jackson Barracks." ★

## \$9 MILLION AT STAKE (continued from page 1)

for 16.7 percent of the city's total revenues. All property taxes account for only 8.1 percent of the city's total revenues."

Gaming revenues to the city come from two sources, video poker and Treasure Chest Casino. According to the latest data available, video poker contributed \$638,000 to Kenner during the fiscal year 1995-1996. Treasure Chest, on the other hand, has generated over \$8 million annually during this same period.

Treasure Chest Casino has now been in operation for slightly more than two years. In that time, the city of Kenner's Administration has had the opportunity to evaluate the boat's operation and its impact to the city. In addition to its hefty financial flow to the city, Treasure Chest has been the city of Kenner and Jefferson Parish's major economic development engine.

The direct impact of Treasure Chest in Kenner has resulted in the creation of 1,200 full-time jobs. More importantly, 75 percent of Treasure Chest's employees reside in Jefferson Parish. Total salaries for these Jefferson Parish employees are \$33.8 million annually.

Businesses have increased their sales as a result of their involvement with Treasure Chest. Total expenditures for goods and services purchased from Louisiana vendors are estimated at \$29.2 million, of which \$11 million was spent in Jefferson Parish.

Other economic indicators which could be traced to Treasure Chest's existence are an increase in occupational licenses by over 10 percent since the casino began operating in the city. Furthermore, sales tax revenues

have increased by 25 percent.

The city has been without a capital budget since 1985, when federal funding was eliminated. Kenner city government is committed to using gambling revenues for non-recurring expenses, thereby allowing for a much-needed capital budget for the city and to help reduce the city's existing debt.

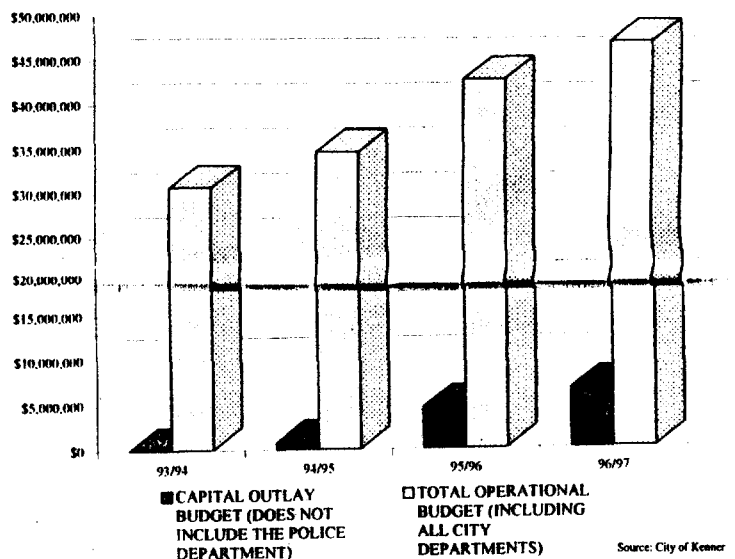
Projects financed by gaming revenues include major improvements to the city's infrastructure, upgrades of playgrounds, the construction of two new gymnasiums and improvements in the Senior Citizens Center.

The capital budget financed by the gaming revenues has included the purchase of major firefighting equipment, the acquisition of additional property for the relocation of a fire station and the acquisition of a new Training/Communication Headquarters building.

The Kenner Police Department has been a major beneficiary of the gaming revenue, having collected and/or budgeted a total of \$6.2 million. Due to gaming revenues, the Kenner Police Department is now the highest compensated municipal law enforcement agency in Louisiana. The Department issues .40 caliber pistols to all police officers at no cost to them. In addition, a state-of-the-art training facility has been built and opened. Officers patrol the streets of Kenner in brand new police units. The communications system has been thoroughly upgraded in order to provide maximum response for police service calls. For the past two fiscal years, approximately 20 percent of the Kenner Police Department's funds have come from gaming revenues.

Prior to Treasure Chest's opening in September 1994, many citizens had great

CITY OF KENNER CAPITAL OUTLAY & OPERATIONAL BUDGET



concern that gaming would bring more crime, heavier traffic flow and an overall decline in the value of property in this area.

According to Police Chief Nick Congemi, the crime rate in Kenner has decreased since the arrival of Treasure Chest.

Traffic on Kenner streets has not seemed to have increased due to the presence of the casino. Factors that may have alleviated potential problems are street upgrades, Williams Boulevard traffic signal

synchronizations and the opening of Power Boulevard I-10 entrance and exit.

Real estate companies in the city explain that property values have increased at a rate higher than in previous years. Subdivision expansion and new home construction are presently at a healthy level.

When voting on Treasure Chest's continued existence, citizens now have the advantage of going to the polls already aware of the known effects on the city. ★

CITY OF KENNER  
CAPITAL OUTLAY & OPERATIONAL BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR	CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET		OPERATIONAL BUDGET TOTAL OPERATIONAL BUDGET (INCLUDING ALL CITY DEPARTMENTS)	TOTAL POLICE BUDGET	POLICE BUDGET	
	CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET FROM NON-GAMING REVENUES	CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET (DOES NOT INCLUDE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT)			PORTION FROM GAMING REVENUE	% OF TOTAL POLICE BUDGET FROM GAMING REVENUE
93/94	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 30,009,976			
94/95	\$ 0	\$ 731,668	\$ 34,813,882	\$ 8,407,850	\$ 710,979	8.5%
Gaming began September 1994						
95/96	\$ 0	\$ 4,495,114	\$ 42,871,885	\$12,459,441	\$ 2,588,695	20.8%
96/97	\$ 0	\$ 6,500,000	\$ 46,999,919	\$14,363,425	\$ 2,895,558	20.2%

Note: Occupational licenses issued have increased 10.3% since gaming began.  
Sales taxes have increased 25.3% since gaming began.

Source: City of Kenner

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## Money

# New Tax Laws Affect Small Business Owners

By RYAN M. CRESPIANO, CPA

Once again, it is election time, and our friends in Washington are trying to secure their jobs by befriending the common citizen and breaking their usual political logjam. Just when you're finally at a point where you understand the last series of changes, Congress has passed yet another set of tax-related laws.

The first major tax legislation passed by Congress is the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996. It contains a wide variety of payroll-related provisions as well as a two-step increase in the federal minimum wage. The federal minimum wage, which is currently \$4.25, will increase to \$4.75 on October 1, 1996, and to \$5.15 on September 1, 1997. However, the minimum wage for newly hired employees under the age of twenty (20) is \$4.25 per hour for the first 90 calendar days after they are hired. Even though the minimum wage is being increased, the minimum wage for tipped employees will remain the same at \$2.13, so long as the employee earns enough in tips to bring their wages up to the minimum wage then in effect for other employees.

A couple of other items of interest of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 is the ability of small business owners to establish Savings Incentive Match Plans for employees (SIMPLE) and to increase the deduction limitation on fixed assets purchased by small business owners.

These new types of retirement plans can be offered by employers that have no other qualified retirement plan and that had no more than 100 employees who received at least \$5,000 of compensation. A SIMPLE plan can be either an individual retirement arrangement for each employee or part of a cash or deferred arrangement (i.e., a 401(k) plan). A variety of other rules are associated with these plans. However, they offer the small business owner the opportunity to offer their employees a retirement plan through their job. The new deduction limitation for assets purchased by a small business owner has been increased to \$18,000, effective January 1, 1997. This increase is up from \$17,555 in previous years and will continue to rise substantially over the next seven years.

Upon passing this new piece of legislation, Congress then passed the new Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. This act makes major revisions to the tax law involving medical expenses and insurance.

## DISTRICT 4 SEAT (continued from page 1)

quick to disagree. She cites her strong showing at the polls as proof of the broad coalition of neighborhood support she amassed in District 4. Branigan adds that her first place finish is due to 15 years of hard work in the community, schools, playgrounds and churches. She stressed that she is not beholden to any political group or individual.

"The common thread in the district is a concern about quality of life issues," remarked Branigan. "The councilperson has to be a problem-solver more than a philosopher. Everyone who knows me knows how hard I work and how committed I am to solving problems."

The "election within the election" was seeing who would face Branigan in the runoff. When the last votes were counted, Maria DeFrancesch edged Chris Centanni by a scant 8 votes to finish second in the election. DeFrancesch compiled 874 votes (23%) compared to the 866 votes amassed by Centanni (22%).

According to statistics released by the Clerk of Court's

First, long-term health care benefits may be received tax-free for the first time even though they may cover the type of care that previously did not qualify as a medical expense and premiums may be paid by an employer tax-free to the employee. For self-insured individuals, the deductible percentage of health insurance (currently 30 percent) paid for themselves and their spouses and dependents will increase. The percentage will increase as follows: 40% in 1997; 45% in 1998-2002; 50% in 2003; 60% in 2004; 70% in 2005; and 80% in 2006 and thereafter.

A major change in your financial strategies may be driven by the new Medical Savings Account Program, which allows certain taxpayers with high deductible insurance to create a tax-free IRA-type account to cover everyday medical expenses. A high deductible health plan is a plan with an annual deductible of \$1,500-\$2,250 for individual coverage and \$3,000-\$4,500 for family coverage. The maximum annual contribution to a Medical Savings Account by an employee or an employer is 65 percent of the deductible for individual coverage and 75 percent of the deductible for family coverage. What's more, there is more flexibility to pay for large medical bills during unforeseen emergencies by withdrawing money from an existing IRA account without penalties.

A third, and quite controversial, bill passed by Congress is the Welfare Reform Reconciliation Act of 1996. In addition to drastically altering the way welfare benefits are delivered in the U.S., the bill creates a federal new hire reporting system to help locate employees who are subject to a child support withholding order, requires adoption of uniform state laws regarding interstate enforcement of child support orders, and adds restrictions to the eligibility requirements for the earned income credit.

As with the passing of all new laws, taxpayers will have some adjusting to do in order to comply with all of the new requirements. However, we all should not worry, as when we become accustomed to these new laws, Congress will inevitably pass another new set. ★

Ryan M. Crespianto is a CPA practicing tax accounting with the firm of Rebowe and Company, Certified Public Accountants - A Professional Corporation, with offices in Metairie and Kenner.

office, 3,870 of 7,822 registered voters living in District 4 (i.e., 49 percent) went to the polls on election day.

Howie Farrell and Mike Palamone rounded out the field, finishing with 373 (10%) and 286 (7%) votes, respectively.

DeFrancesch, an educator, states that some of the problems that affect District 4 can be found outside the boundaries of the district. She points to a current controversy over construction of a new apartment building adjacent to the Post Office at West Esplanade and Loyola Avenues. "The residents of District 4 are not in favor of new apartment buildings, either next to the Post Office or anywhere in the Loyola Tract," said DeFrancesch. "Those buildings wear down, they attract tenants who are less desirable, add to traffic jams and have a negative impact on our quality of life."

Both candidates have expressed a need to focus on preservation of green space in North Kenner, particularly on the Loyola Tract.

The runoff election to see which candidate advances to fill the District 4 seat vacated by Louis Congemi will occur on Tuesday, November 5, 1996. ★

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

## History

# Green Wave Romps In First LSU vs. Tulane Football Game

By GASPAR J. "BUDDY" STALL

Weather-wise, November 25, 1893, might have been a cold and dreary day, but the future of college football in Louisiana from this day forth was bright and colorful. You see, this was the date of the very first LSU versus Tulane football game.

The match between the two universities became a big box office attraction. Tickets (priced at 50 cents each) sold like hot cakes in Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

On the morning of the game, LSU quarterback Ruffin Pleasant, Coach Coates and a few players went to town to buy ribbon to brighten up the initial contest. S. I. Raymond's Store happened to have a large supply of purple and gold ribbon in stock for the approaching Mardi Gras season. However, the green ribbon had not yet arrived. Badges and rosettes were made out of the available purple and gold material for the all-male student body (approximately 200 in number) who, along with president James W. Nicholson, followed the LSU football team to New Orleans.

Winning the first game was apparently very important to both teams. Tulane made no secret of the fact that it had picked up several players from the

Southern Athletic Club. LSU had a "ringer" in the person of LSU professor Harcourt A. Morgan, who had played football during his college days.

At game time, 2,000 fans witnessed the tossing of two coins, one for the choice of goal and one for possession. Players were warned not to pay any attention to train whistles.

LSU won the toss for choice of goal, but little else on this day. Tulane won possession of the ball and ultimately won the game by a score of 34-0. Tulane scored a total of seven touchdowns and three conversions. As you might suspect, scoring in those days was quite different from what it is today. Field goals and touchdowns were good for 4 points each, while conversions and safeties were worth 2 points each.

Some of the interesting highlights included a goal line stand, with LSU holding Tulane for 4 downs on the 4 yard line. Tulane's 135-pound end, Robelot, was knocked senseless and had to be removed from the game. Hugh Bayne, an exceptional player for Tulane, left the game at half-time. As it turned out, a carriage was waiting to take him to a law lecture. LSU's captain, R. G. Pleasant, was seriously injured during the first half and had to be carried from the field by his teammates. Little did anyone know

that he would later be carried by his supporters to election as Governor of Louisiana.

LSU's 155-pound right halfback, Edwin F. Gayle, was in the game for every play. His durability in football could have been a prognostication of his durability in the game of life. A Lake Charles attorney for many years, Gayle lived well past 100 years of age.

While LSU's official colors in 1893 were blue and white, the colors (purple and gold) of the Mardi Gras materials

available for that first game were adopted instead and have been used ever since. It is interesting to note that the two major universities in Louisiana, LSU and Tulane, have the three Mardi Gras colors as their school colors, namely purple and gold — and green. ★

*Buddy Stall is the vice president of public relations for Radiofone. Civic, business or fraternal groups looking for a speaker should contact Julie Dawson at 849-4508.*

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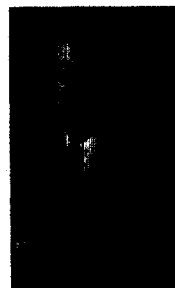
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By JOSEPH A. STAGNI, D.C.

Every year, the death rate in the United States due to cancer has been unacceptably high. This year's projections are no better, with 554,740 people predicted to die from some form of cancer. However, patient by patient, tumor by tumor, doctors are beginning to gain ground in the battle against cancer. New discoveries

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## Health

### Prognosis For Cancer Victims Beginning to Look Better

are revealing the secrets of malignant cells as well as the strategies for attacking them.

Scientists now know that cancer is a genetic disease. It is caused by multiple mutations in the genes that control the division of cells. Whether it is inherited or acquired through the environment, the mutated genes begin to grow at an uncontrollable rate, much like a car with a stuck accelerator pedal and no brakes. The cancer cells grow very rapidly, eventually piling up on top of each other to form large tumors. As a result of this rampant growth, the cancer cells silence the genes that ordinarily monitor the replicating DNA for chemical errors. The malignant cells become resistant to medications and begin to set up the formation of blood vessels to help further their own growth.

Virtually all anti-cancer drugs interfere with cell division. However, these drugs have the same drawbacks as the cancer itself. The drugs target ALL dividing cells, killing off normal tissue in the skin, hair and bone marrow as well as the cancer tissue.

The new wave of anti-cancer drugs is going to be much more selective. By targeting certain genes (oncogenes), researchers hope to switch off the signals that prompt cancer cells to divide in the first place. Some drugs have been shown to shrink tumors, while sparing

normal tissues. Other treatments, including antibodies loaded with radioactive iodine, have shown great promise. Still other treatments slow down the process by which a tumor stimulates its growth by creating its own blood supply. Quite often, several of these treatments are used together.

Diagnosis of full-blown cancer need not look hopeless any longer. In coming years, doctors hope to combine therapies as a means of controlling cancer, much like diabetes, hypertension and atherosclerosis, for 10-20 years or longer.

According to medical statistics, the leading types of cancer in males and females are:

MALE	FEMALE
1. Lung	Lung
2. Prostate	Breast
3. Colon & Rectal	Colon & Rectal
4. Pancreas	Pancreas
5. Leukemia	Ovarian ★

Dr. Joseph A. Stagni is associated with Stagni Chiropractics, located at 3227 Williams Boulevard in Kenner. Dr. Stagni is a 20+ year resident of Kenner and is the president-elect of the Kenner Adult Day Care Center.

## Community

### KPWA to Sponsor Evening Business Card Exchange

On Thursday, October 17, 1996, the Kenner Professional Women's Association (KPWA) will sponsor yet another "Business Card Exchange." This month's informal gathering will be hosted by LaBella's Catering, Inc. and LaBella's Deli, located at 2219 Veterans Memorial Boulevard in Kenner. Unlike most of the other "Business

Card Exchanges" that meet in the morning, this month's event will take place from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

For more information about the upcoming "Business Card Exchange," contact Sophie Gesser at 443-1510 or Judy LaBella at 466-4675. ★

### Jeff Fest '96 Features All-Star Lineup For Fifth Anniversary Celebration

One thing is certain about the folks in South Louisiana — they love to party. There will be plenty of reasons to party when Jeff Fest '96 swings into action at Lafreniere Park. The two-day festival, presented by The Times-Picayune, will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 19-20, 1996.

Spanning the musical gamut from Classic Rock to Alternative, and R&B to Gospel, Jeff Fest is true to its original goal — create an event that caters to the entire family. The music line-up for this year includes Creedence Clearwater Revisited, The Commodores, John Kay & Steppenwolf, The Guess Who, The Little Milton Blues Show, Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, Irma Thomas, The Frankie Ford Show, Zebra, George Porter and Runnin' Parners, featuring Snooks Eaglin, Cowboy Mouth, The Iguanas, Babs Guitars and Drums, Dead-Eye Dick, Rockin' Dopsie Jr., Zydeco Twisters, The Flashback Band, Joy Buzzer, Of Human Bondage, Kim Carson and The Casualties, 3rd Echo, T.C. Hawkins and The Avondale Community Choir.

In addition to outstanding musical offerings, Jeff Fest '96 also has many hands-on activities for children. On that note, Cox Communications Kid's Fest boasts an incredible array of attractions. Educational displays and

presentations are supplied by the Jefferson Parish Public School System and the Jefferson Performing Arts Society will give exciting performances from plays such as *Annie and Oliver*. FNBC will once again feature "Banko," a perennial Kid's Fest favorite that offers a fun way for kids to learn about the value of money. In addition, the Pepsi/7-Up "Pop-A-Shot" will also be back. Along with puppeteers, a spacewalk, the bunji run, face painting, spin art, magicians and lots of free give-aways, this festival is alive with continuous entertainment.

Of course, no Louisiana festival is complete without a "taste of the South," featuring local food vendors who provide an eclectic fanfare of cuisine for discriminating taste buds.

Jeff Fest Advance Tickets are on sale now at the following locations: First NBC locations, Treasure Chest Casino, TCBY, New Orleans Original Daiquiri's, boomtown Casino and Major video. Advance tickets are priced at \$10 for adults, \$3 for children, and \$5 for senior citizens. Tickets at the gate are a bit higher, priced at \$12 for adults, \$4 for children, and \$6 for senior citizens. Jeff Fest gates are open from 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. both days.

**VOTE NOVEMBER 5**



## CAPELLA, CONNICK (continued from page 1)

Throughout his campaign, Capella continuously emphasized the fact that he had 10 years experience as a traffic court prosecutor and supervisor, his military experience, including a stint in Desert Storm, and the numerous changes he has already made since being named interim district attorney by John Mamoulides.

In the 35 precincts of Kenner, voters likewise made Capella their favorite choice. Of the 15,226 votes cast in Kenner, 6,480 voted for Capella (43%), with 5,077 voting for Connick (33%).

According to Jon Gegenheimer, Clerk of Court for Jefferson Parish, voter turnout was quite high, with 121,214 total votes being cast out of a possible 250,631 (48%). The turnout for the November 5 runoff election is likewise expected to draw a large turnout, especially with the presidential election on the same ballot.

Connick was equally elated when word came in that he had made the runoff. "We took on a powerful machine, and Jack's the incumbent, but over 60 percent of the people in Jefferson Parish voted for a change in the DA's office," stated Connick. "This is just the beginning. They (Capella's supporters) haven't seen anything yet." Connick, nephew of Orleans Parish District Attorney Harry Connick, and a former felony prosecutor in Jefferson Parish, promised his supporters victory on November 5.

Most of Connick's campaign strategy highlighted his background as a felony prosecutor from 1980-1988. Likewise, he attacked the political practice of Jefferson district attorneys hand-picking their successors.

Although eliminated from the race, Fred Heebe accumulated many more votes than expected by every political analyst and "expert" in the race. "Although I have to concede the battle, I am not conceding the war," stressed Heebe. "I think we have raised some very viable issues in this campaign. I also believe our supporters hold the balance in this election."

Although he didn't fare well in the race, Harahan Mayor Vinny Mosca did open many people's eyes to the issues in the race. He proved to be quite a force in the campaign, using public forums to offer alternatives to hot topics, including jail crowding and other topics not touched on by his competition.

With the runoff election set for November 5, 1996, both Capella and Connick have their work cut out for them. Capella stated that he will resume campaigning when he returns from an active duty stint in California as a Naval Reserve commander. Connick likewise expects to return to work getting ready for the next round of competition. "We're going to campaign hard, and we're going to campaign to win," remarked Connick.

In other races, incumbent George W. Giacobbe won re-election as Judge of 1st Parish Court, Division B, picking up 51,546 votes (78%) in the process. Giacobbe was first elected to 1st Parish Court in 1988, winning re-election in 1990. Giacobbe stressed that his record of using progressive programs to rehabilitate drunken drivers without jail time has cut recidivism rates appreciably.

Patrick E. Jones finished with 14,947

votes (22%) in the judgeship race. Jones was also defeated in the 1990 judgeship election against Giacobbe.

In the race for judgeship of 24th Judicial District Court, Division D, Bob Murphy and Craig Cimo will meet in a runoff to succeed Judge Walter Kollin. Murphy, a personal injury lawyer and former board member at East Jefferson General Hospital, led the five-candidate field, capturing 15,648 of the 37,004 votes cast (42%). Murphy was followed by Craig Cimo, who finished with 6,896 votes (19%). Cimo, a Harahan lawyer and former assistant parish attorney, narrowly edged "Chuck" Credo and Karen Wiedemann, who amassed 6,322 votes (17%) and 5,534 votes (15%), respectfully. Closing out the competition was Edna Killian, who finished with 2,604 votes (7%) in the election.

The races for Justice of the Peace in 6th and 8th District were quickly resolved, with Kevin J. Centanni easily outdistancing his two competitors in the 6th District contest. Centanni compiled 18,501 votes (74%) compared to Bob Marrero and Melinda Hills-Holmes, who finished with 3,597 votes (14%) and 2,981 votes (12%).

Frank Dotson won the race in 8th District, picking up 62% of the votes in the process. Dotson obtained 1,491 votes (62%), compared to Michael "Shoe's" Austin's 905 votes (38%).

For Constable, the voters in 8th District had no problem, giving the nod to Charles Wilson, Sr., who amassed 63% of the votes cast. Melvin Dillon, Jr. finished with 37% of the votes.

With seven candidates in the race for Constable of 6th District, no one was able to pull away from the rest of the pack. As such, Harold D'Gerolamo and Joe Bourgeois move into the runoff, capturing 25 and 21 percent of the vote in the process.

In perhaps the biggest upset of the election, Covington lawyer Jay Blossman, Jr. defeated 15-year incumbent John F. Schwegmann to win a six-year term on the state Public Service Commission. Blossman gathered 53,430 of the 99,616 votes cast (54%). Schwegmann finished with 46,186 votes (46%). Blossman based his campaign on the fact that it was "time for a change" in the way things were done by the Public Service Commissioner. Blossman stressed how the agency had not done enough to reduce utility costs, something he hopes to attack right away.

In Kenner, voters consistently showed their support to Blossman. Of the 12,899 votes cast in Kenner, 7,232 went to Blossman (56%), compared to 5,667 for the incumbent, John Schwegmann. Blossman was the leading vote getter in 32 of the 35 precincts in Kenner.

The two constitutional amendments on the ballot won overwhelming approval by the voters throughout Jefferson Parish.

Amendment No. 1, the "local option" proposition on gambling, was approved by 84% of the voters. Of the 113,814 votes cast in the election, 95,335 were for the amendment compared to 18,479 who were against the amendment (16%). The amendment requires a parishwide election before any form of gambling not already in the parish, such as video poker or riverboats, can be started. It also requires approval from local voters before a new gambling boat can open in a parish with other boats, and before a riverboat casino can move

from one site in the parish to another.

Kenner voters were very consistent on this issue, with 11,950 votes cast in favor of the amendment (84%). A majority of voters in every Kenner precinct voted in favor of "local option."

Although the wording of Amendment No. 2 may not have been as well understood, it nevertheless had no problems being passed. Of the 104,404 votes cast, 67,341 (65%) were in favor of Amendment No. 2. The amendment exempts from ad valorem taxation all "incorporeal mov-

ables," or intangible assets such as good will, client lists and workforce training.

Election returns for Kenner reveal that 8,346 of 12,992 votes were in support of Amendment No. 2 (64%).

The runoff election is set for Tuesday, November 5, 1996. If you intend to vote in the runoff election and/or presidential election, you must be registered by October 11. Remember to exercise your rights as an American citizen — get out to the polls and vote! ★

## "Boo At The Zoo" — A Frightfully Fun Event

Little ghosts and goblins are invited to scare up a good time at "Boo at the Zoo," the annual Halloween event hosted by The Parenting Center at Children's Hospital and the Audubon Zoo.

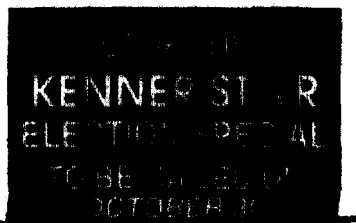
The event offers three evenings of tricks and treats: Saturday, October 26, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.; Sunday, October 27, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.; and Thursday, October 31, from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. An exclusive patron party will take place from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. on Halloween evening only.

"Boo at the Zoo" is a party for children up to 12 years of age, offering the fun and excitement of a traditional Halloween. Attractions include Morgus the Magnificent, Trick-or-Treat houses with free candy, the Mombasa Ghost Train, Sheriff Foti's Haunted Hall, games with free prizes and entertainment. All attractions and treats except concessions are free.

admission.

Advance tickets are priced at \$8 per person, if purchased by October 10, and \$10 thereafter. Tickets for The Parenting Center and Audubon Zoo members are \$8, and can be purchased at the Audubon Zoo ticket gate.

For more information about "Boo at the Zoo," call Children's Hospital Public Affairs Office at 896-9323.



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